

Protect OCL VL3 71

Chapter 71: Incompatible! Your shamelessness~_1

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At the same time.

West of Southern Desert County, there lies a vast estate, known as "Qian Garden".

This garden serves as a residence for the Zuoqiu family in Southern Desert County, specifically for members on official business.

As a Rank Four Prominent Family that has been passed down for nearly two thousand years, the influence of the Zuoqiu family in Southern Desert County is not as significant as the local Purple Abode family, but it is not without foundation.

In Southern Desert County, there are several estates and residences similar to "Qian Garden". Although they are not particularly large, their internal designs are extremely thoughtful, fully displaying the style and heritage of a Rank Four Prominent Family.

On usual days, the Zuoqiu family would dispatch members to reside there, specifically responsible for negotiating trade and communications with the various major families in Southern Desert County, while collecting local information on the side.

Zuoqiu Qingyun is now residing in this "Qian Garden" during his trip to Southern Desert County.

In order to facilitate cultivation, a secret chamber for cultivation was purposefully built underneath "Qian Garden". A small spirit gathering array was set up in this secret chamber. By embedding spirit stones, one could gather spiritual energy for cultivation.

Without having spirit veins to rely on, one can only maintain the cultivation speed by relying on such spirit gathering arrays and elixirs. Hence, to avoid hindering their members' cultivation, those in charge from the Zuoqiu family would generally rotate every ten years, with only a very few members of the family who were nearing the end of their lifespan taking up long-term residency.

Now that Zuoqiu Qingyun lives in "Qian Garden", a room in the underground secret chamber has naturally been specifically assigned to him for daily cultivation.

On ordinary days, nobody would disturb him during his cultivation. Even the two elders who accompanied him to Southern Desert, without his permission, wouldn't dare to set foot there.

Inside the secret chamber.

There were two women whose silk dresses were disheveled, their faces flushed, weakly collapsed on the royal couch, already deep in unconsciousness.

The light of the Fluorescent Stone Spirit Lamp was dimmed, creating a hazy glow. The patterns of the complex array on the ground flowed with a faint light.

The atmosphere was ambiguously romantic.

However, Zuoqiu Qingyun, who was always graceful and elegant in public, was now sitting cross-legged, topless, cultivating with his eyes closed.

Clouds of a faint peach blossom color mist rose from his body, enveloping the room. The entire secret chamber was filled with the decadent air of sensual pleasure.

After a long while.

Zuoqiu Qingyun finished his cultivation technique, his chest swelled, and took a deep breath like a toad swallowing the moon.

In an instant, all the peach blossom colored aura was absorbed into his body, giving him a sense that his cultivation base had progressed a small step forward.

After a brief pause, his eyes slowly opened, revealing a pair of eyes that were wicked and unruly.

After shedding his disguise, an aura of evil swelled around him. His immense pressure, instead of lessening, increased. Emitting an uncomfortable and unsettled feeling.

He glanced casually at the two beautiful women who had fallen asleep, and a hint of disgust inadvertently flashed within his eyes.

These two women, one was the legitimate daughter of a Rank Six Prominent Family in Qing'an Prefecture, the other was a senior student from Qing'an College. Both were prime choices for their beauty and temperament, and both had the potential to be future geniuses, known as "Little Sky Prides."

To put it mildly, they are already the goddesses admired by many students and junior brothers in the Princely families and the College.

Some time ago, Zuoqiu Qingyun had put substantial effort into possessing these women behind the scenes. He had viewed them as treasures, carefully grooming them, until their defenses were completely disarmed.

However, now, he was growing tired and weary of them.

Especially after hearing about the radiant "Tian Yan Fairy," he regarded her as a treasure and began his operations.

Sky Prides are rare.

Whether it's a prominent family or the direct disciple of a College, any Sky Pride within a family or a College would definitely be highly valued and seen as a treasure. Even if he possessed an "unusual technique" and was confident, he did not dare to cross that line easily.

But Tian Yan Fairy is different. No matter how gorgeous her appearance is, or how unparalleled her talents are, she was still a woman from the dust. She has no illustrious background nor anyone to rely on.

Once he "captures" her, she will be of great benefit to his status and reputation, as well as a cultivation vessel for the "Golden Toad Codex".

"Hehe ~ Tian Yan, you have repeatedly refused to see me. I thought you were a chaste woman~~~"
A strong desire for possession flashed across Zuoqiu Qingyun's eyes, "Your push-and-pull technique is simply playing with fire. Wait until you taste my secret technique 'Golden Toad Embracing Carp'... hehehe~"

He let out a series of laughter, an obvious sign of a villain.

But at this moment.

An old voice suddenly came from deep within his spirit, "Zuoqiu boy, with my numerous centuries of experience, Tian Yan's background may not be simple. She seeks you out so privately, I fear her intentions are unpredictable. If you are careless, you might capsize in the gutter."

"Elder Jiang, you're awake?" Zuoqiu Qingyun was startled, quickly regaining his composure and responded respectfully with his consciousness, "Could it be that Elder Jiang thinks I should abandon this great opportunity?"

The old voice spoke gently, "A Sky Pride in the Sky People Realm is indeed a good candidate for cultivation, she can't be easily given up. Thanks to you, you've been very diligent in your cultivation recently, and my divine soul has recovered quite a bit. Have you collected the medicinal herbs I asked for a while ago?"

"Elder Jiang, although it took some effort, I managed to gather all of them." There was an intense excitement in Zuoqiu Qingyun's eyes, "Elder Jiang, have your powers recovered enough to concoct the 'Golden Toad Soul Dissipating Powder'? If so, Tian Yan will be in my grasp."

"It's barely possible. Although it will consume a lot of my divine soul power, for you to grow faster, and to avenge me in the future, any loss is worth it." Elder Jiang said, his voice flashed with a hint of hatred, as if recalling some deeply etched past nightmare.

However, he quickly regained his composure, turning to Zuoqiu Qingyun he said, "Zuoqiu boy, you should relax as soon as possible..."

"Sorry to trouble you, Elder Jiang."

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That night.

In the deep of night, there were few lights to be seen in the Southern Desert County Town, and the city's outskirts had already been enveloped in thick darkness.

The wind on the prairie is usually strong, and as night fell, the noisy sounds of the world gradually quietened, leaving only the whistling wind as the dominant sound. Occasionally, the howling of wolves and horses mixed in, making the world feel vast and desolate.

By the Dong Cha Cha Lake, the normally vibrant floating restaurants were strangely quiet tonight, all closed for business and not taking customers.

As the night deepened, the faraway guests had to leave disappointedly. The lights on the floating restaurants also gradually went out. There were no stars in the sky, only the bright moon high above. The pale moonlight cast down, making the darkness of night even more desolate.

However.

Within this desolate darkness, there was still a place by Dong Cha Cha Lake where a light remained.

It was a modest mansion.

In comparison to the usual rough and rustic mansions of the Southern Desert, this mansion was much more delicate. It was built by the lake and had not only little bridges over flowing water and pavilions, but also a variety of strange-shaped rocks. Walking amongst them, there were sparse shadows and lush trees crisscrossing each other.

There was even the sound of gurgling water, making it delicate and unique.

This kind of garden is usually found north of the Jinsha River, in Lingbei, and Longzuo. It is extremely rare in the Southern Desert.

To build such a garden in the Southern Desert requires a large amount of manpower and resources.

Without mentioning anything else, even the peculiar stones commonly found in the garden were not ordinary. They were "Wild Marsh Peculiar Stones" from the Great Wilderness Marsh, specifically transported over a thousand miles from Lingbei, an expense that was considerable by itself.

Not to mention, this garden also had many plants unique to Lingbei and Longzuo. If there weren't Profound Martial cultivators specializing in this field painstakingly caring for them, these plants wouldn't survive in the Southern Desert.

This mansion was the private residence of Tianyan Fairy in the Southern Desert, named "Cloud Reliance Pavilion". The name meant "Relying on the cloud to watch the lonely geese, leaning on the bridge to listen to the cloud."

It was also the place she was about to meet Zuoqiu Qingyun.

At this moment.

Within the "Cloud Reliance Pavilion", in a pavilion full of antiquity, there was a qin table.

A beautiful woman in a white dress was sitting by the qin table, her slender fingers gently stroking the strings. The sound of the qin was as soft as a mountain spring, melodious and pleasant to ears.

The tender sound of the qin, combined with the colors of the lake, pavilions and the bright moonlight, complimented each other perfectly.

The woman's eyebrows were occasionally lightly furrowed. Her eyes were deep, as if there were thousands of silk threads of worries lingering in her heart that couldn't be dispelled. Seeing this, one couldn't help but feel overwhelmed with a desire to protect her.

This woman was naturally Tianyan Fairy.

Far away.

Among the purple bamboo trees that cost a fortune to plant, next to the Wild Marsh peculiar stones, several young gentlemen with hairstyles bounded by crowns and wearing brocade clothes were sneakily holding a "Thousand Miles Mirror" and peering at the woman playing the qin.

However, although there were five individuals, there was only one "Thousand Miles Mirror".

The person currently using the Thousand Miles Mirror to observe was an handsome youth wearing a purple crown and a red gown.

While looking he couldn't help but sigh in astonishment, "Truly 'the sound of the strings soothes a thousand worries, a fragrance expressing boundless sorrow'. Tianyan Fairy is so charming, one can't help but want to hold her and protect her."

"Little Commandery Prince, let me have a look too." Wang Shihai, standing nearby, craned his neck trying to see but could only vaguely catch sight of Tianyan Fairy, which only made his heart itch even more.

"Shihai, as the saying goes, a brother's wife is off-limits." The youth in the purple crown didn't even spare him a glance, and gave him a serious lecture, "I, as the Prince, have already decided to save the position of an Imperial Consort for Tianyan Fairy. Once my father passes away, she will be one of the official Commandery Prince Consorts. Shihai, you must give up your delusions."

Wang Shihai immediately rolled his eyes. He thought, thanks on behalf of the Fairy. And about waiting for his dad to kick the bucket... the Commandery Prince is only a few hundred years old, when will it be his turn to take over?

However, his family, although claiming to be kings of the Southern Desert County, their son, the Little Commandery Prince, Wu Jinghao, is indeed the first heir to the Commandery Prince's residence. Wang Shihai could not compete with him and only said, "Little Commandery Prince, we didn't come tonight for you just to admire the beauty.

Did you bring the 'Sky Mechanism Recording Disk' from your house?"

"Right, right, I have the Sky Mechanism Recording Disk. With such beauty and exceptional music, how could I not save it?" Little Commandery Prince, Wu Jinghao, took out a palm-sized jade disc and handed it over to Wang Shihai saying, "Shihai, you use it to record everything, don't waste a moment."

Wang Shihai took the disc, his mouth twitched. In the past, he and the Little Commandery Prince were called the Twin Little Hegemons of Southern Desert, and he didn't think Wu Jinghao was bad. Instead, he thought they were confidants.

After hanging around with his own fourth grandfather, Wang Shouzhe, his horizon expanded, and he had realized that this Wu Jinghao was actually quite annoying.

Another young master said worriedly, "Little Commandery Prince, how did you steal the Sky Mechanism Recording Disk from the Commandery Prince's Residence? The whole Southern Desert County Town knows that it is Commandery Prince's treasured item, with recorded images of yaoguang's youth inside. You reactivated the Sky Mechanism Recording Disk and destroyed the original images.

Aren't you afraid of being killed by the Commandery Prince?"

"Am I supposed to be scared?" Little Commandery Prince, Wu Jinghao, snorted coldly. "Not to mention that I am the heir to the Commandery Prince's Residence. Everything there is from my ancestors, and all will be mine in the future. Besides, that immoral old man always hides in his study, surreptitiously looking at the Sky Mechanism Recording Disk. His indecent behavior belittles my mother.

Where does it put her?"

"By using this Sky Mechanism Recording Disk to uphold justice, I can show its true value."

"Well..." Wang Shihai was speechless. This guy said his own Commandery Prince father is immoral as if he himself were very moral. Wang Shihai felt that with his raised consciousness, he was getting increasingly incompatible with Wu Jinghao.

Chapter 72: Let Go of That Immortal!_1

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However, speaking of it, both the father and son of the Southern Desert County's Commandery Prince's Residence are equally unscrupulous, none of them can criticise the other.

When the Commandery Prince was youthful, he was a hopeless romantic, infatuated with the Academic Palace's Sky Pride senior sister. However, due to "differences in status", they couldn't be together. He refused to marry and have children, almost infuriating his ancestors to death!

It wasn't until he was over two hundred years old, on the brink of progressing to the Purple Abode Realm, that he was forced into marriage by royal decree from the Emperor. Furthermore, his cultivation base was too high, leading to difficulties in having an offspring. After several decades of marriage, the Commandery Prince Consort finally gave birth to Wu Jinghao.

Such a hard-earned child naturally received utmost affection.

Wu Jinghao was no ordinary child either. Even from a young age, he was an arrogant brat, wreaking havoc everywhere with the backing of his prestigious family background.

Later, he and the Wang Shihai of Southern Desert's Wang family, a Fifth Grade Prominent Family, became fast friends and were known as the "Southern Desert's Little Twin Demonic Kings". They were a headache to anyone who encountered them.

However, they refused to acknowledge that they were little demonic kings, instead calling themselves "Little Overlords"!

Following a series of operations, Wang Shihai activated the "Sky Mechanism Recording Disk" quite quickly.

Little Commandery Prince Wu Jinghao finally let go of the Thousand Miles Mirror. He caressed the tube of the mirror and said: "Shihai, this Thousand Miles Mirror you brought is indeed a treasure. Even from such a far distance, we can admire the immortal elegance of Tian Yan. The only inadequacy is that we can't get a bit closer to experience the Immortal's sweet fragrance."

Hearing this, their friends from various prominent families all nodded in agreement.

While the backgrounds of these three friends didn't match that of Wang Shihai or the Commandery Prince's Residence, they were strong Rank Six nobles in Southern Desert County Town, usually behaving as little demonic kings.

"...?"

Wang Shihai's face flushed instantly.

How did he end up with such a group of cronies... If he wasn't helping his great-uncle, he would have kicked them away and made clear his boundaries.

"Cough, cough~ Gentlemen, don't worry, this young master came fully prepared." Wang Shihai said while pulling out an array plate from his storage ring. The array plate had a dull color, decorated with tiny, intricate mysterious runes on its surface.

"Shihai, isn't this the one of your family's cherished treasures - the 'Sky Star Concealment Array'? I heard that once it activates, even a Tianren Realm Cultivator would fail to detect the hidden person's breath." Wu Jinghao looked at Wang Shihai with an expression of 'admiration', "I can't believe you dare to steal the family treasure for a closer look at Fairy Tian Yan."

The say I'm audacious but really, you're just as daring~~! You truly are a brother of mine, Wu Jinghao!"

"Way to go, Shihai!"

"The Little Overlord truly lives up to his reputation."

The other hangers-on roared in approval, one even urging: "Young Master Shihai, activate the array quickly. I can't wait to get a closer sniff of Fairy Tian Yan's fragrance~~."

"Don't rush, don't rush, let me figure it out."

It was Wang Shihai's first time fiddling with this thing, so he wasn't very proficient.

After a while, he finally got the hang of it and injected Mysterious Energy into the indicated part of the "Sky Star Concealment Array".

Soon, the embedded Spirit Stones started up, and the mysterious runes on the array plate rose as if they were alive, encapsulating Wang Shihai and the other four.

Something strange happened.

It was as if an invisible hand had wiped the air clean, and the presence of the five people was erased. Looking from the outside, it seemed as if they didn't exist, and even their breath was perfectly concealed.

This was the power of 'Sky Star Concealment Array'.

With such a concealing artifact at hand, one could avoid danger in an emergency, buy time to escape, or organize a small-scale surprise attack. You can say its functionality is very diverse.

Moreover, it's an extremely precious and rare portable array plate!

The only drawback is that this array plate loses much of its effectiveness during the day, it can only demonstrate maximum efficiency at night when it can blend with the starry sky.

Just as Wu Jinghao and the others were all set and waiting excitedly,

suddenly

a hearty laughter of a man resonated from a distance: "Qingyun is late, I hope the Fairy would excuse me."

As soon as the voice fell, a figure appeared in everyone's field of vision.

The man was dressed in a white robe. His movements were nimble, and he drifted gracefully among the trees and flowers, as though a butterfly flitting around, quite elegant.

Within a few breaths, he had covered tens of meters, elegantly landing in the pavilion. He then provided a grand salute towards Fairy Tian Yan with indescribable charm.

"Thump~~"

As the last note fell, Fairy Tian Yan stopped the strings and stood up to return the salute: "Master Zuoqiu's presence is already more than enough to satisfy me."

While speaking, she cast a coquettish glance at Zuoqiu Qingyun.

Before he could respond, she moved like a floating lotus, lightly landing beside the stone table in the pavilion.

With a wave of her hand, some prepared food and wine flew out of her Storage Ring. With another wave, these items gently landed on the stone table as if being held by an invisible hand.

"I've prepared some light wine and snacks, and although they may not match the delicacy of the ones in noble houses, they are unique. I hope Master Zuoqiu would not mind." Fairy Tian Yan spoke softly as if a spring breeze was brushing past, gesturing towards the seat opposite, "Please take a seat, Sir."

Chapter 72: Let Go of That Immortal!_2

Zuoqiu Qingyun thanked and sat down with grace, praising, "The Immortal's control of Mysterious Energy has reached an incredibly nuanced level. Regrettably, my cultivation base is still quite far from reaching the Heavenly Human Realm. Thus, I am unable to discuss the profound uses of Mysterious Energy with the Immortal."

While speaking, he took a whiff of the food and wine, poured himself a drink, and extolled with satisfaction, "The dishes are colourful and fragrant, the Immortal's culinary skills are impressive. Especially this pot of wine, its colour is that of flower nectar and its scent is beautifully quiet. It would be impolite of me, Qingyun, not to drink."

He then drank all the wine in his cup in one go, licked his lips, and praised, "Good wine, an indeed good wine. It's as if I am tasting an Immortal, leaving a long aftertaste with a rich flavour."

"Speaking of which, I've been wanting to meet with the Immortal multiple times recently, but you've always avoided me." While playing with his wine glass, Zuoqiu Qingyun spared a glance at Immortal Tian Yan and smiled enigmatically, "I wonder why this Immortal acted haughty at first but courteous later? Since you've invited me for a moonlight meet and prepared such meals, could it be that..."

"Young Master Zuoqiu, please do not misunderstand."

Immortal Tian Yan gracefully sat down and served a glass of wine for herself.

As she took a sip of wine, a hint of spring seemed to appear in her eyes. She looked at Zuoqiu Qingyun with a delicate and tender glance, seemingly profound, "The meal I've prepared for you today is just to bid you farewell."

"Farewell?" Zuoqiu Qingyun's expression faltered slightly, "Qingyun has not planned to leave the Southern Desert yet."

Immortal Tian Yan gently raised her jade arm and refilled Zuoqiu Qingyun's cup. With a captivating smile playing on her lips beneath her veil, she said, "The farewell I am referring to is different from your understanding. Young Master, do not resent me on the way to the underworld."

At her words, Zuoqiu Qingyun's face stiffened and his smile froze on his face.

Suddenly, his face turned icy-cold, his expression twisted into a painful grimace, "Tian Yan, what do you mean? Did you actually poison the wine? Could it be that you hold some grudge against me?"

"Alas~"

Immortal Tian Yan sighed deeply, "There is no feud between us. It's just that, unfortunately, I have someone in mind that I want to be with. Unfortunately, Young Master Zuoqiu, you happen to have a grudge against him."

"You... damn you!" Zuoqiu Qingyun's face turned pale, he was both frightened and angry, "Tian Yan, you are audacious to plot against a descendant of the Grade Four Prominent Family, the Direct Disciple of Academic Palace!"

"Alas~ Who can help it? That man is unwilling to yield~ Therefore, I have no choice but to use your head as a peace offering." Immortal Tian Yan sighed deeply, "As an apology, these dishes were personally prepared by me as a token of my sincerity. Young Master, do not waste them~ Fill yourself up, so you won't be hungry on the journey to the underworld."

"You... That man, could it be Wang Shouzhe? Tian Yan, you really are despicable." Zuoqiu Qingyun's face turned somewhat unsightly, a surge of anger ignited in his chest. He had calculated everything before he came, even guessing why Immortal Tian Yan would want a private meeting with him. However, none of his guesses turned out to be true!

At this moment, Zuoqiu Qingyun felt his male pride was being trampled under Tian Yan's feet and brutally crushed.

"Why bother?" Immortal Tian Yan's eyes grew cold, "Zuoqiu Qingyun, you are just a cultivator at the Seventh Layer of the Spirit Platform Realm. Killing you, in my eyes, is akin to crushing an ant."

"The reason I want you to die from 'Drunk In Mortal World' poison is just so that I don't dirty my hands."

"Alright, alright." Zuoqiu Qingyun was furious, and he chuckled bitterly, "Tian Yan, since you've taken the first step, don't blame me, Zuoqiu Qingyun, for taking it to the next level. Indeed, I was willing to give my heart to the bright moon, but the moon only shines into the gutters."

This time.

It was Immortal Tian Yan's turn to look surprised, she arched her eyebrow and said, "Zuoqiu Qingyun, don't try to intimidate me with hollow threats. I don't believe that you can overturn the heavens even after you've been poisoned with 'Drunk In Mortal World.'"

While the two of them were engaging in their argument.

Wang Shihai and his group of five, together, were using the 'Star Concealment Formation' to slowly approach the pavilion. Wang Shihai was controlling the Array Plate with his Divine Sense and was sweating slightly due to the intense effort it required.

Meanwhile, the face of the Little Commandery Prince, Wang Shihai, had turned an ominous shade of green. If it weren't for his brother, Wang Shihai, who was constantly indicating to him to show restraint and wait for the right opportunity, he would have leapt forward and torn Zuoqiu Qingyun into thousands of pieces.

...

"Tian Yan, your 'Drunk in Mortal World' concoction is indeed cleverly made," Zuoqiu Qingyun scoffed, continuing to hold his wine cup and emptying it in one gulp. "What a pity, you've run into this Prince."

"You dare to drink the Drunk in Mortal World so boldly? Impossible..." From the eyes behind Tian Yan's veil, a trace of disbelief and astonishment was revealed. The Drunk In Mortal World was a precious and ancient recipe from the Sky Pillar. It was colorless and tasteless, enhancing the refreshment of the wine. Even a Heavenly Human Realm Cultivator would take a while to detoxify this poison.

"Ancient recipe? Heh heh." Zuoqiu Qingyun's expression was somewhat grotesque and teasing. "It's merely some minor tricks. Immortal, haven't you noticed anything amiss yet?"

"?"

Tian Yan, the immortal, blinked in surprise. After a brief internal inspection, her eyes instantly turned cold. She felt a strange sensation arising within her organs and a soft tingling sensation was spreading throughout her body, making it reddish and hot.

Although this symptom was not pronounced yet, it was enough to prove that she was poisoned.

"You poisoned me?... "The expression on Tian Yan's face changed drastically. She hastily activated her Mysterious Energy, intending to capture Zuoqiu Qingyun alive and force him to provide an antidote. However, suddenly a strong numbing sensation invaded her body, making her delicate body soften. With a moan, she slumped back into her stone seat.

"Oh dear, I forgot to tell the Immortal. This poison is 'Golden Cicada Crisp Soul Scatter', another ancient recipe. It is colorless and tasteless. In addition to causing a victim to feel numb and weak, it also continually generates primal and uncontrollable feelings, until it eventually drives the victim mad. Any attempt to mobilize Mysterious Energy will only accelerate the onset of the poison.

Presumably, Immortal, you have already experienced its cleverness." Zuoqiu Qingyun leisurely refilled his cup while savoring the wine and laughed maliciously, "Tsk, this wine mixed with Drunk in Mortal World tastes excellent."

Tian Yan's eyes were as sharp as frozen knives: "Zuoqiu Qingyun, I seem to have underestimated you. Is there an antidote for this poison?"

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"Antidote? Heh heh, of course there is." Zuoqiu Qingyun fixed his greedy eyes on Tian Yan, laughing wickedly, "It only requires this prince to favor the Immortal well, then the poison will naturally be detoxified."

"Humph, infamous rogue. How incapable must you be to resort to such means to deal with a woman? Scum!" Tian Yan felt a surge of heat in her heart that was growing stronger. She silently thought to herself that this poison was unique and not to be underestimated.

"Good, very Good. Actually, thinking about it, Immortal and I are very much alike, quite a suitable match." Zuoqiu Qingyun laughed heartily, his expression was exceptionally confident and strange, "but rest assured, Immortal. Once I have favored you, you will not be able to live without me. At that time, you will cast aside Wang Shouzhe and Li Shouzhe like old shoes and live only for this prince."

A chill enveloped Tian Yan. Regardless of whether Zuoqiu Qingyun was bluffing or not, she would never allow herself to be violated by the likes of him.

"Forget it." Despite feeling reluctant, Tian Yan had no choice but to make a decisive move. She had reservations about using that treasured item in this situation, but she had no alternative.

"Immortal, you must have arranged for this area to be deserted in order to kill me. Why don't you call for help? Let's see if anyone will answer, even if you scream your throat hoarse." Zuoqiu Qingyun laughed heartily.

Suddenly!

A righteous and stern voice shouted, "Let go of Tian Yan, you lecher. I ... no, Tian Yan, I, the Little Prince, am coming to help you."

As the voice fell.

Several figures jumped out from the shadows, surrounding Zuoqiu Qingyun completely. The one leading them was the dignified, handsome, and extraordinary Little Commandery Prince, Wu Jinghao.

Even though he spoke righteously, he could not take his eyes off Tian Yan.

Chapter 73: I'm the Little Commandery Prince! It's Too Hard_1

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Gazing intently at Sky Pride Immortal, it took several moments before Wu Jinghao finally relented and looked away.

He stood with his hands behind his back, looking down at Zuo Qiu Qingyun righteously, "Zuo Qiu Qingyun, I never thought that a son of a Grade Four Noble family, and a direct disciple of the Qing'an College would stoop to such lowly tricks."

"I, Wu Jinghao, the handsome Little Commandery Prince and the Princely Heir of the Southern Desert Count's Residence, will not allow such things to happen under my watch. Don't you dare act calm and collected, why don't you surrender now?!"

"Hehe, Sky Pride Immortal, is this your so-called rescue?" Seeing the high and mighty look on Wu Jinghao's face, Zuo Qiu Qingyun could not help but scoff, "Relying on such fools... Sky Pride Immortal, I have to question your wisdom and taste."

Even the thoroughly exhausted Sky Pride Immortal could not help but show a speechless expression.

What a disgrace!

Although she had been tricked by Zuo Qiu Qingyun, she admitted her mistake. She also had some trump cards to turn defeat into victory.

But why would she need these little devils to come to her rescue? They will only add to the chaos. Their chivalrous rescue is even worse than submitting to Zuo Qiu Qingyun. At least, he is stronger than them.

However, if Wang Shouzhe were to come to her rescue, she would be wholeheartedly willing to repay this life-saving grace even if it meant marrying him against her will.

"Hey hey hey! Who are you calling a fool?" Wu Jinghao was so angry he jumped to his feet, glaring at Zuo Qiu Qingyun and shouted out, "We have five people, you are just one. Even if you're in the advanced stage of the Spirit Platform Realm, you can only lay down and accept your fate."

Brothers, form up, our time to brave this and emerge victorious, no, our time to be the heroes and save the damsel in distress is here!"

"Fear not Sky Pride Immortal, I, Wu Jinghao, am here to save you."

With that, he led his group, surrounding and attacking Zuo Qiu Qingyun.

Their formation was indeed very aggressive.

After all, Wu Jinghao and Wang Shihai, though naive and silly, were genuine Sky Prides. Even the other three unnamed characters were all Little Sky Prides from powerful families.

In the end, those without the proper strength and background wouldn't be able to associate with Wang Shihai and Wu Jinghao.

Even Sky Pride Immortal couldn't help but feel a glimmer of hope. These naive little boys did have some abilities. Perhaps she really had a chance of getting rescued without using her last resort!

However.

Zuo Qiu Qingyun didn't even bat an eyelid, he just said, "Elder Jiang."

Suddenly, his aura changed.

An extremely dangerous and terrifying, but incredibly powerful aura rose from his body, filling the entire pavilion in an instant.

This dangerous aura sent a shiver down Sky Pride Immortal's spine; she knew something was not right.

Just as she suspected.

A tea time later.

Wu Jinghao, Wang Shihai, and the others had been severely beaten and then bound into a bundle in the pavilion.

Their faces and bodies were all covered with bruises, presenting a pitiful sight.

Their binding was also extraordinarily professional, causing them to lie in an extremely embarrassing posture. The more they struggled, the tighter they seemed to bind themselves.

Such an exquisite binding technique required thousands of practice to perfect.

Zuo Qiu Qingyun was satisfied with the result. He sneered, "Didn't you guys want to be Heroes? Didn't you guys like Sky Pride Immortal? Then I'll present a spectacle on how your idol is gradually subjugated by me. What a satisfying experience before you die!"

Hearing this, the disheveled Wu Jinghao and Wang Shihai looked at each other, feeling chills run down their spines.

This guy was too brutal and insane.

During their conversation, Zuo Qiu Qingyun had already slowly approached Sky Pride Immortal with a wicked grin, "Sky Pride Immortal, now there should be no one left to disrupt our good times."

"Zuo Qiu Qingyun," Sky Pride Immortal took a deep breath, spoke seriously, "Although I don't know what has happened to you, I'm sure that you must have practiced a forbidden technique that has affected your mind. The Little Commandery Prince and Wang Shihai, though worthless, are the core disciples cultivated by their families. If you kill them, you will face the retaliation of their families.

I advise you to think thrice."

Upon hearing this, Wu Jinghao and Wang Shihai and others were nodding furiously

That's right, it's not worth it at all to kill them. Better not to kill them.

"Sky Pride, now you can only show your eloquence. After you become my tripod furnace, even if I dismiss you, you will be despaired and refuse to leave." Zuo Qiu Qingyun laughed loudly, "As for them, you don't need to worry. After dealing with them, I will naturally leave some evidence to let the noble families of the Southern Desert County know that they were killed by your lover Wang Shouzhe."

He had already investigated after being rejected by Sky Pride Immortal several times, and learnt that she seemed to have a soft spot for Wang Shouzhe

Under the weight of new and old grievances, that was why he sought to find a way to get rid of Wang Shouzhe.

"To blame, blame yourself! Who told you to fall for him? Hmph, not more than a pretty face, a flower planted in cow dung, good-looking but useless." Find your next adventure on My Virtual Library Empire

Chapter 73: I'm the Little Commandery Prince! It's Too Hard_2

Wu Jinghao, Wang Shihai and the others were all dumbfounded. This guy was not only ruthless but also shameless. After killing them, he even wanted to shift the blame onto others.

This was a significant problem indeed!

Immortal Tian Yan's heart was also filled with cold fear, her voice filled with shock: "Aren't you afraid of the news leaking out, and having your Master Yao Guang clean house when she finds out?"

"My master, Yao Guang?" A wild and wicked grin appeared on Zuoqiu Qingyun's face, "I'm really scared~~~ One of these days, Yao Guang will also submit to me and obediently become my Tripod Furnace."

Immortal Tian Yan gasped in shock.

What kind of evil had befallen Zuoqiu Qingyun, or what sort of evil technique had he practiced? Could anyone possibly be as deranged and ruthless as him?

Well, well... It seemed she had no choice but to use that thing she had on her. But this would mean tough luck for those foolish young ones; after all, she herself had some trouble controlling that thing when it was deployed.

She hoped that if they were good people, they would be taken care of by heaven.

Biting her lip, Immortal Tian Yan made up her mind quietly and was about to pull out that thing from her storage ring, ready to fight Zuoqiu Qingyun to the death.

Just at that moment.

A sudden shift occurred in the Mysterious Energy between heaven and earth, followed by a sharp screeching sound.

The next moment, a harsh Sword Energy suddenly streaked across the sky like a startled swan, roaring towards the direction of the pavilion with its intimidating sharpness.

The Sword Energy was as pure as snow, flew as gracefully as a startled swan, and howled like a roaming dragon.

A frigid killing intent pervaded the entire pavilion.

Zuoqiu Qingyun, who had been full of himself a moment ago, felt his scalp tingle and his body bristle uncontrollably, as though he was being eyed by a World's Best Fierce Beast.

Danger!

Living for so many years, Zuoqiu Qingyun had gained no shortage of battle experience. On instinct, he drove his Mysterious Energy, stamped his feet, and darted out like a bird, retreating quickly like a surprised swan.

This was the Shadow Stealing Technique, a top-grade movement technique passed down by the Zuo Qiu family.

It was said that their Old Ancestor had realized this technique by chance after observing birds flying and fish jumping; it combined the speed and elegance of a bird and the agility and flexibility of a fish, making it an extremely practical body movement technique.

In the blink of an eye, he had retreated over ten zhang, far away from the pavilion.

"Whoosh!"

The Sword Energy flew past.

The stone pavilion was sliced cleanly into two halves, crumbling to the ground with a thundering sound.

In the pavilion, Wang Shihai and the Little Commandery Prince, Wu Jinghao, looked at the deep sword cuts barely inches away from them. Their trouser legs had been cut up by the dispersed Sword Energy. They were dripping in cold sweat without even realizing it.

They had just narrowly escaped; any closer and they might have lost their legs.

Even Immortal Tian Yan felt the chill running down her spine. Just now, the Sword Energy had practically skimmed past her body. There was a brief moment when she thought that she was the actual target of the sword.

"Who is it?!"

Zuoqiu Qingyun also felt a surge of fear welling up in his heart, followed by adrenaline.

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Had he reacted even a little slower just now, his fate might have been no better than that of the pavilion.

In the sky.

As the Sword Energy dissipated, the silhouette of a woman with a sword appeared slowly in the night.

She was wearing a white long dress; a veil obscured her face, so her features couldn't be clearly seen. What could be seen were her eyes – calm and indifferent, carrying a chilling allure that made one's heart palpitate.

Under the night sky, her sleeves fluttered, and the surging mysterious energy oscillated around her. With each wave of her imposing aura, she seemed like a celestial maiden who had fallen from the moon palace to the mundane world; she was untouchably awe-inspiring.

Wang Shihai and the Little Commandery Prince, Wu Jinghao, who had still been in shock moment ago, had their eyes light up.

If one could levitate in the air without using the Feiyu Spirit Treasure, they must be in the Heavenly Human Realm. Such power and temperament was certainly not something an ordinary cultivator would possess.

This person who had arrived was undoubtedly a celestial figure!

She must have been unable to ignore what Zuoqiu Qingyun was doing and had come to the rescue!

"Immortal, save us~~~"

"Immortal, that guy has gone crazy, and he's poisoned, you must be careful..."

In their excitement, the five of them immediately started shouting.

"Who are you?!"

Zuoqiu Qingyun's heart was beating fast.

From the moment this 'White-Clothed Immortal' had appeared, his heart had started sensing the alarming danger looming. At this moment, he unconsciously tightened his grip on his weapon while his voice held an edge of nervousness "Do you know who I am?"

Don't blame me for not warning you, but anyone who dares to harm an outstanding descendant of a Grade Four Prominent Family will face consequences not everyone can afford!"

"Hmph~!"

Hearing this, the silhouette in the sky sneered, completely ignoring him.

Without even seeing her make any move, the longsword in her hand suddenly burst into brilliant luminescence. The next moment, another flash of Sword Energy shot out like a bolt piercing through the clouds.

The Sword Energy was as mighty as a dragon, as fierce as thunder, and its mighty power tore through the darkness of the night. The whole sky trembled at its might, causing the sands and stones on the ground to scatter and the trees to sway wildly.

The power of a Tianren Realm powerhouse was fully exhibited at this moment.

Last time when they were still far apart, Zuoqiu Qingyun was able to dodge the Sword Energy by using his movement technique. But now when they were quite near to each other, it wouldn't be easy to dodge the Sword Energy of the Tianren realm.

Zuoqiu Qingyun's heart was filled with a chilling dread and anxiety. In haste, he summoned God's Sense, uttering a frantic call: "Elder Jiang!"

"Don't fear, boy~ just relax your body."

Out of nowhere, an old voice echoed into his Divine Sense.

Zuoqiu Qingyun's heart loosened and he immediately did as told.

The next moment, a powerful Divine Consciousness Power percolated from his sea of consciousness, taking hold of his body once again, and his aura suddenly soared.

Chapter 73: I'm the Little Commandery Prince! It's Too Hard_3

An overwhelming might disperses out.

At the same time, his demeanor underwent a significant transformation, becoming mysterious and teeming with evil. It was as if he became another person in an instant.

It was clear that "Elder Jiang" had taken control of Zuoqiu Qingyun's body at this moment.

Even for a usual Spirit Platform Realm powerhouse or a Great Sky Pride, under such pressing circumstances, they wouldn't have time for other reactions and could only choose to resist forcefully.

However, under Elder Jiang's control, the "Zuoqiu Qingyun's" speed was incredibly rapid.

In almost a blink of an eye, a middle-grade spirit shield was deployed by him. The solid Mysterious Energy Shield was instantly extended, standing like a copper wall and iron barrier before him.

Simultaneously, he swung the longsword in his hand, producing several rays of sword light in the blink of an eye. They lashed out at the incoming sword light, attempting to deflect it and, at the very least, weaken it.

Not only that.

His movement technique improved instantly, becoming more agile, more free and quick as if a phantom illusion.

Being able to respond so orderly under the threat of a Tianren Realm powerhouse's sword light in such a short time, was already amazing enough for anyone in the Spirit Platform Realm.

However, the difference in strength is not so easily bridged.

The sword light that "Zuoqiu Qingyun" radiated barely touched the sword intent of the white-clad immortal before it shattered instantly. His phantom-like movement technique also failed to evade the lock-on of the sword intent.

Within just a blink of an eye, the chilling sword light had already broken through the multiple obstructions and brutally hit the Vital Energy Shield!

"Bang!!!"

A loud noise suddenly resonated.

The solid Mysterious Energy Shield held up for less than two breaths before shattering violently. "Zuoqiu Qingyun" was sent flying backward by the terrifying impact, smashing through several trees and odd rocks in the Wild Marsh before finally steadying his body.

His face was pale, and bright red blood seeped from the corner of his mouth.

It was evident that his internal injuries were severe.

"Wow!"

Wang Shihai, Wu Jinghao, and others gaped in shock.

"Such a powerful sword intent!"

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Elder Jiang was deeply astounded as well.

He had initially thought that with his previous weakening, he should be able to dispose of three or four tenths of the opponent's sword intent. The remaining sword intent might, at most, lightly injure him. Unexpectedly, her sword intent was much stronger than he had anticipated!

Almost instantly, he made a judgment: this woman's background was far from simple!

Only a Sky Pride, or more specifically, a carefully nurtured elite of a family or Academic Palace, could possess such formidable sword intent in the Tianren Realm.

Moreover, he had an intuition that the woman had not yet exerted all her strength. If the fight were to continue, even if he was controlling the body, Zuoqiu Qingyun would undoubtedly lose.

Where there's life, there's hope!

Withdraw!

Elder Jiang swiftly initiated his movement technique, sliding away like a fish and in the blink of an eye, he had flown dozens of feet away.

In the meantime, strands of peach-red mist dispersed around him, enveloping him in a cloud of mist of the same color.

The night was dark, and visibility was already low. The addition of the peach-red mist made visibility even lower. Besides, this mist could interfere with the God Sense, making it impossible to distinguish his exact location in the mist from afar.

This showed his extensive experience.

When the enemy is stronger, simply relying on speed is hardly enough to escape from the enemy's grasp.

At this moment, it's essential to create a diversion to prevent the enemy from locating him instantly, thus buying more time to escape. The peach-red mist served this purpose.

If time or conditions allow, it can be arranged in a more complex manner, thus increasing the probability of escape.

However, at this point, he didn't have the extra time for complex arrangements, so he could only try to conceal his shape as much as possible, confuse the opponent's God Sense, and aim for a quick escape.

"Trying to run?"

Seeing this, the white-clad immortal huffed coldly again.

With a flick of her wrist, the longsword in her hand once again shone brilliantly, and the severe sword light roared out.

"Crackle~"

A bolt of lightning flashed across.

Traces of heavenly thunder flooded out from the sword light.

The peach-red mist seemed to have encountered its nemesis, being driven out in a second, and Zuoqiu Qingyun's figure was immediately exposed.

The sword thrust continued, piercing fiercely into the Mysterious Energy Shield he used for body protection.

"Pu~!"

Zuoqiu Qingyun's body trembled as he spat out a mouthful of blood.

What the hell is this?!

His heart trembled with shock. He hadn't expected the Mysterious Energy mist used as a smoke screen to be so easily broken.

The woman's sword intent seemed to counter him.

If he had reached the Tianren Realm at present, it would have been okay, but he was only in the Advanced Stage of the Spirit Platform Realm. The quality and quantity of the Mysterious Energy in his body were too low. Against a Tianren Realm opponent, whose attributes even countered his, he could not stand a chance even with Elder Jiang's assistance.

"Elder Jiang, what should we do?!"

Zuoqiu Qingyun was somewhat panicked and couldn't help but call out to Elder Jiang with his God Sense.

"What else can we do? Run!" An impatient voice came from Elder Jiang deep in his seas of knowledge, "Relax your body; we're going all out this time!"

He had barely accumulated a bit of Divine Soul Power, which he hadn't intended to use too much of, but he couldn't care less at this moment.

Chapter 73: I'm the Little Commandery Prince! It's Too Hard_4

Despite his reluctance, he feared he would truly be in a predicament today!

An overwhelming surge of Divine Soul Power emerged.

In an instant, a rich peach-red radiance enveloped Zuoqiu Qingyun's body, propelling him into the depth of the night with a swift "swish".

Different from the previous peach-red mist, the current radiance had an increment of spiritual brilliance, so dazzling that it was more than ten times brighter than before, exuding an even greater aura than the previous one.

"Small Divine Power?"

The white-robed Immortal frowned slightly but quickly relaxed.

Even if Zuoqiu Qingyun had encountered some kind of fortune, using the Small Divine Power with some method wouldn't last for long.

She floated in the air, without hurrying to pursue, and flicked her hand to break free Wang Shihai and Wu Jinghao, freeing them with a flash of white sword light.

After this, she stepped into the air, swiftly chasing after Zuoqiu Qingyun.

Her speed was astonishingly fast, so much so that within two breaths, she had disappeared into the night sky.

Inside the pavilion, the saved Wu Jinghao struggled to get up.

He stared wild-eyed at the disappearing figure, murmuring non-stop: "So overbearing, such a powerful Immortal ~~ it is over, I, Wu Jinghao, have fallen ~~ "

The others were equally impassioned, entirely captivated by the unparalleled grace of the Immortal, exclaiming, "We've found a new Immortal."

Only the Immortal Tian Yan stared in astonishment, murmuring: "That heavenly thunder, it seems vaguely familiar... something is not right, something is not right..."

All of a sudden.

A youngster exclaimed, "Little Commandery Prince, what is this?"

Everyone followed the direction of his pointing finger, and saw a silk handkerchief fluttering down from the night sky.

Wu Jinghao perked up instantly, took a leap as agile as a dragon, and snatched the handkerchief in mid-air.

"This is the handkerchief left by the mysterious Immortal. It is embroidered with a 'Qing' character. Could it be the Immortal's maiden surname? Such a fragrant smell~~~" Wu Jinghao was excited beyond measure and inhaled deeply the fragrance of the handkerchief, "I've decided, I declare that the place of Commandery Prince Consort in the future will undoubtedly be given to this Immortal."

A servant nearby could not help but murmur, "Little Commandery Prince, didn't you previously say that the position of Commandery Prince Consort would be reserved for Immortal Tian Yan?"

"That's true~~"

Wu Jinghao's expression became grave instantly.

He scowled, looking quite troubled: "Choosing between either option is hard. It wouldn't be fair to either one of them. Difficult~~ it's so difficult. Heavenly Father, why must you torment me this way?"

"Smack!"

Just as Wu Jinghao finished speaking, he received a slap on his head from Immortal Tian Yan.
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She shot a glance at Wu Jinghao, snatched the handkerchief from his hand, and rebuked: "You little brat, do you think I fancy you? Stay away from me."

Her body was soft and powerless, unable to mobilize the Mysterious Energy, but she was still able to make some simple moves.

She unfolded the handkerchief, and indeed, there lay a beautifully embroidered seal script 'Qing' character.

"Cao Youqing, is it really you?" Immortal Tian Yan's expression was fluctuating.

She had suspected as much, but was not sure until she saw the handkerchief. Now, she was seventy to eighty percent certain.

"Cao Youqing?" Wang Shihai murmured. "This name sounds so familiar."

"Cao Youqing? What a great name!" Wu Jinghao's eyes sparkled with excitement. "So it turns out my future Commandery Prince Consort is 'Immortal Youqing'."

Immortal Tian Yan rolled her eyes at him: "Little Commandery Prince, have you so quickly moved me to the side?"

"Ah~~" Little Commandery Prince Wu Jinghao sighed regrettably, "Immortal Tian Yan~~ I know it's not fair to you. But I have no choice, there can only be one Commandery Prince Consort, you will have to bear this."

Immortal Tian Yan's mouth twitched involuntarily.

This boy's self-perception was undeniably too good, acting as if she really wanted to marry him. If I were not poisoned, I would smack you dead.

"Little Commandery Prince, I remember now!" Wang Shihai suddenly realized, "I thought the name 'Cao Youqing' sounded familiar; she's the Sky Pride of Lingyun Sacred Land under master Purple Xiao!"

"So, it's the Sky Pride of the Sacred Land. No wonder she is so powerful." Wu Jinghao merely praised a couple of words, then suddenly his body stiffened, and his eyes widened, "Not good~ we of the royal family have rules; disciples of the Sacred Land of the Academic Palace cannot marry into the royal family."

"Heavens~~ Earth~~ Why does fate have to play such tricks on me?" Wu Jinghao gazed up at the starry night sky, his eyes welling up with tears, his voice filled with lament, "Is this the destiny of my Southern Desert County Commandery Prince Residence?"

"Is my father's tragedy with Daoist Master Yaoguang to be repeated on me?"

"Immortal Youqing, I have failed you~~~ It seems the position of Commandery Prince Consort can only go to Immortal Tian Yan from now on..."

Immortal Tian Yan twitched at the corner of her mouth as she listened.

Thank you so much~~

Chapter 74 Strong! Guardian Zhe, Great Heavenly Proud_1

...

Outside the Cloud Reliance Pavilion's annex, a peach blossom forest spans over several thousand acres.

Situated on a plateau, Southern Desert region experiences a cold and dry climate, with extreme day-night temperature differences. Despite it being summer, the temperature remains quite low. The variety of peach blossoms in this forest must be a specially bred type, carefully maintained to remain in bloom even now.

Under the moonlight, the splendid peach blossoms look like pink clouds, casting an indescribably romantic and aesthetic scene.

However, at this moment, Zuoqiu Qingyun was not in the mood to appreciate the beauty of the peach blossoms. He had barely flown far from the annex when he descended to the ground, weaving his way through the peach blossom forest.

He dared not fly high in fear of being intercepted. And the primary reason he can fight against higher ranks is due to Elder Jiang's spirit possession. This enhances his Divine Soul Power rather than his Mysterious Energy.

If he kept flying using the Divine Soul Power, Elder Jiang, who is merely a spirit remnant now, would soon be exhausted.

Zuoqiu Qingyun, swift in his movement, occasionally used the ground and trees to leverage his momentum, making him light and fast. Like a bird threading through the forest, he dodged around quiet as a fish, passing by without making a sound.

"Elder Jiang, what exactly is that damn woman's background?" Filled with resentment and unwillingness, Zuoqiu Qingyun couldn't help but roar in his heart.

If not for that mysterious woman's interference, he would've had Tian Yan, the Sky People Realm Genius, in his grasp by now.

Once he had her as his Tripod Furnace, his cultivation base would increase drastically, swiftly advancing into the Heavenly Human Realm.

Unfortunately, everything is ruined now.

"Kid, something's not right about today," Elder Jiang's voice sounded in his mind. "That mysterious woman must possess extraordinary strength, yet she suppressed her bloodline power, attempting to hide her true identity. If she had really done her best, both of us could have fallen today."

"Elder Jiang, didn't you say that you were a strong man at the peak of the Divine Power Territory from Celestia thousands of years ago, and you were just half a step away from the next realm?" Full of dissatisfaction, Zuoqiu Qingyun complained. "How could you be defeated by a mere mysterious woman?"

"What do you know, Zuoqiu?" Elder Jiang was somewhat enraged. "I'm merely a spirit remnant now. If weren't for your weak prowess, could we be beaten by a Heavenly Human Realm? I've previously reminded you to act modestly when your strength is insufficient to prevent making unnecessary enemies."

"Never mind, no use discussing it now. We need to leave this dangerous place as soon as possible."

As the two spirits in one body were bickering, Zuoqiu Qingyun had already arrived swiftly at the center of the peach blossom forest.

Suddenly.

Elder Jiang's voice echoed in his mind, a trace of solemnity in the aged voice: "Young Zuoqiu, something's not quite right. I vaguely feel like we're being watched – we might be under surveillance."

Zuoqiu Qingyun immediately looked around in alarm, but found no signs of danger. He couldn't help complaining, "There's nothing around but dense vegetation, let alone living creatures like insects, birds and beasts. Elder Jiang, aren't you becoming paranoid?"

"Zuoqiu, be careful!"

Elder Jiang's voice suddenly rose several octaves.

Before Zuoqiu Qingyun could comprehend what was happening, a sense of impending danger approached; he quickly executed a movement technique to evade.

"Swoosh!"

A blood-red vine flew past his chest, tearing his robe and leaving a trail of fresh blood.

In a fleeting moment, the blood-red vine disappeared into the deep peach blossom forest, leaving no traces behind.

Meanwhile, rustling noises could be heard throughout the shadowy peach blossom forest, as if filled with countless lurkers, with numerous sets of eyes secretly staring at them.

The atmosphere was inexplicably eerie.

"Who is there?" Zuoqiu Qingyun, his whole body filled with chill, shouted angrily, "If you have the guts, come out and face me, the son of the Zuoqiu Family, instead of skulking about in the shadows!"

"Clap clap clap~"

A few crisp and clear claps suddenly came from the depths of the peach grove. Discover hidden content at My Virtual Library Empire

Along with the clapping, a magnetic male voice could be heard: "Who would have thought, the son of the Grade Four Prominent Family, the Direct Disciple of Xue Palace, would have another face."

As the words were spoken.

A handsome man in white pushed away the obstructing branches, casually strutting out from the dense forest curtain.

It was apparent that he was the man who spoke.

On this starless moonlit night, the silver moonlight was brighter and more brilliant than usual. As he stepped out from the dense forest, the bright moonlight gradually spilled onto him. His plain white robe seemed to glow faintly, enhancing his extraordinary poise that was already Dust Immune.

Also illuminated by the moonlight was a face that he found deeply memorable and exceptionally irritating. Especially the smirk that curled at that man's mouth was particularly glaring.

"It's you? Wang Shouzhe!" Zuoqiu Qingyun's face changed dramatically. "So tonight's events were all your trickery? You've got quite some nerve trying to harm the Direct Disciple of the Academic Palace!"

Wang Shouzhe just raised an eyebrow, retracted the teasing smile, and replaced it with a cold one: "Mr. Zuoqiu, you should be aware that from the moment you commissioned 'Sky Pillar' to deal with me, we became mortal enemies."

"Sky Pillar? How does he know about Sky Pillar?" Zuoqiu Qingyun's face froze slightly, expressing some disbelief, then he suddenly realized: "Has Sky Pillar betrayed me?"

Chapter 74 Strong! Guardian Zhe, Great Heavenly Proud_2

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"It appears my information was correct."

Wang Shouzhe sighed.

In truth, he was almost completely certain before he even made a move. The reason for his verbal provocation was simply to exercise caution and to confirm his suspicions.

He looked at Zuoqiu Qingyun and said, "Zuoqiu Qingyun, I've done my research on you. Despite hailing from a Grade Four Prominent Family, you are petty-minded, vindictive, and unforgiving. This time, since you've expressed an intention to strike at me, you surely wouldn't give up easily even if you failed this time. You would likely double your efforts.

Therefore, in order to eliminate future troubles, I must strike first."

"Zuoqiu Qingyun, your death day has come."

"Hmph ~ You think YOU can do it?!" Zuoqiu Qingyun not only didn't panic, but an intense killing intent also spread from him, "You, a mere late-stage Spirit Platform Realm cultivator, intend to stop this young master? You truly don't know your place! Out of my way!"

As his words fell, an evil, eerie, but incredibly powerful aura suddenly erupted from his body, the augmentation provided by Elder Jiang's Divine Soul Power.

Simultaneously, the mid-grade Spirit Sword in his hand spun rapidly, radiating bursts of mysterious peachy-pink light.

This was the Soul-Swallowing Swordsmanship he had learned after meeting Elder Jiang. It used sinister techniques to affect a person's Divine Soul, influencing their will in battles, with boundless applications.

Against a Tianren Realm powerhouse who was a level higher than him, this swordsmanship had limited effectiveness. However, against an opponent of the same Spirit Platform Realm, the swordsmanship was extraordinarily effective.

Conveniently, today he would show Wang Shouzhe a taste of what true absolute power was!

Zuoqiu Qingyun's body moved following the sword, and with a flick of his wrist, a chilling, evil sword light suddenly stabbed at Wang Shouzhe.

The Divine Soul Power was condensed in the sword light, forming layers of peachy-pink Sword Intent that rippled out.

Any slightly weak-willed individual affected by this Sword Intent will have layers of illusion appearing in their minds, disrupting their focus in the battle even if they did not succumb to it completely.

However, Wang Shouzhe seemed entirely unaffected, even his facial expression didn't change in the slightest.

Seeing the sword light drawing closer, he silently gave a command. A figure clad in a cloak suddenly flew out from behind him, blocking his front with the speed of a flash of light.

A surging might rose from the figure and erupted out like a mountainous roar or a tidal wave.

Next moment,

the figure dove down and counterattacked the incoming sword light with a simple punch!

"ROOOAAR~~~!!!"

A thunderous noise echoed throughout the entire peach blossom forest.

Under that fierce punch, the peachy-pink sword light and Sword Intent were completely obliterated.

Zuoqiu Qingyun trembled all over, he was thrown off and flew several meters back before he could barely stabilize himself.

The shattered Sword Intent coupled with the grim punch sent out a sweeping force, causing the surrounding peach trees to sway wildly. Countless petals fluttered about.

Amid the fluctuations of the blasting wind, the figure's cloak was lifted, revealing a robust metallic figure underneath.

That figure turned out to be a metallic puppet!

"A Tianren Realm puppet?!"

Zuoqiu Qingyun's pupils constricted, and he was so shocked by this sudden development that it caused a brief hesitation in his actions.

Clearly, the figure that suddenly emerged was Wang Shouzhe's Tianren Realm puppet, Wang Shuzhu.

Ever since it was restored at a huge cost, this was the first real action Wang Shuzhu had taken. Despite being just a simple punch, the puppet's power and dominance were already well revealed.

Meanwhile, as Zuoqiu Qingyun was still in shock, the vines in the surrounding trees started to rapidly grow.

Vine after vine surged towards Zuoqiu Qingyun like "giant pythons," drowning him in an endless sea of vines in the blink of an eye.

Seeing this, Wang Shouzhe couldn't help but feel a rush of emotions.

In the past, to control such a large number of vines simultaneously would have been extremely laborious. Now, however, it was done easily.

The difference between one more and one less bloodline layer was indeed colossal.

The divergence was such that one needed to personally experience it to completely understand it.

In the past, he only knew that great Sky Prides were powerful. However, now that he himself had become a great Sky Pride, his bloodline had metamorphosed to the Fourth Level, he finally deeply realized the enormity of a Spirit Platform Realm Spiritual Body.

After becoming a Spiritual Body, his affinity with plants had significantly increased. Not only had the efficiency of absorbing Wood Elemental Spiritual Qi enhanced, even the God Sense consumed when controlling plants during battle was significantly less, making it much more effortless.

That was the reason he was able to keep a precise handle on Zuoqiu Qingyun's movements.

Everywhere in this peach blossom forest were his cultivated "eyes and ears."

As time passed, the channels in his body were also becoming broader, stronger under the nourishment of his Bloodline Power. Even his God Sense was strengthened, giving him a feeling of rebirth.

Yet, these were merely the most basic changes.

The biggest transformation was his comprehension of "Intent."

Every technique and methods in this world, when practiced to the extreme, would form an "Intent." Swords have "Sword Intent," blades have "Blade Intent," fists have "Fist Intent," even archery has "Arrow Intent."

This so-called "Intent" was, in essence, a hint of comprehension. Once comprehended, the power of the technique would increase significantly.

Generally, one would only comprehend their "Intent" upon reaching the Tianren Realm. However, great Sky Prides possessing Spiritual Bodies at the Spirit Platform Realm had the chance to touch the realm of "Intent" prematurely.

Chapter 74 Strong! Guardian Zhe, Great Heavenly Proud_3

Although Wang Shouzhe had known about this in the past, his understanding was limited to just "knowing", and he didn't fully understand the reasons. It wasn't until his bloodline metamorphosed,

transforming him into a Spiritual Body of the Spirit Platform Realm, that he brought out his newly purchased top-grade spirit bow, "Fixed Strings".

Being a Spiritual Body seemed like switching on an invisible toggle. His God Sense became more sensitive, making his perception of the world more delicate and nuanced. Even things he had taken for granted in the past could offer him fresh insights.

Despite having "Fixed Strings" only for a while, he had already grasped the essence of archery to a certain degree, invisibly advancing him to a new level of power.

The same goes for his movement technique, swordsmanship, and control over plants.

Even though he hasn't truly crossed the threshold of 'Intent' yet, his strength has undergone massive, earth-shattering transformations.

At this moment, Wang Shouzhe holds the top-grade spirit bow "Fixed Strings" in his hand, weaving through the frenzied vines like an ethereal spring breeze.

The wildly dancing vines and lush peach groves served as his cover. From a distance, one could only see a white figure constantly moving about, its exact location impossible to pinpoint.

From time to time, he would pull the bowstring and release one or two arrows.

The frequency was not high, but every time he made a move, it would cause a significant threat to Zuoqiu Qingyun.

Even with Zuoqiu Qingyun's formidable Divine Soul Power's support, he was hard-pressed under Wang Shouzhe's attacks, unable to break through.

The support of Divine Soul Power is not omnipotent after all. It only allowed Zuoqiu Qingyun to employ maneuvers far superior to those of his own realm, but its duration was very brief. In just a few moments, Zuoqiu Qingyun's Mysterious Energy of the Spirit Platform Realm would be depleted.

Wang Shouzhe, guarded by both the Vine Array and the Tianren Realm Puppet Wang Shuzhu, was not threatened by these attacks.

Zuoqiu Qingyun and Elder Jiang were increasingly shocked as they fought: "Is this kid really just in the late stages of the Spirit Platform Realm? How is he so formidable and tough to handle?!"

Even an average Tianren Realm Cultivator might not be as much of a handful as Wang Shouzhe. Coupled with a Tianren Realm Puppet assisting him, killing him would be nearly impossible. Not getting killed by him would be a lucky break already.

"Zuoqiu, we should retreat for now and settle scores with this brat later."

Elder Jiang's voice suddenly echoed in Zuoqiu Qingyun's mind.

At the same time, he made the swift decision to ignite the power of his Divine Soul. The majestic Divine Soul Power enveloped Zuoqiu Qingyun in a vibrant aura and shot into the night sky, making their escape.

Zuoqiu Qingyun, unwilling but helpless, could only gnash his teeth and roar at Wang Shouzhe: "You little runt! I'll remember this! Time is long, and one day I will collect on this debt!"

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Before his voice fell, the aura enveloping his body had already flown dozens of feet away and was about to completely disappear into the dense forest.

Wang Shuzhu's jeweled eyes flashed red, his aura abruptly exploded, and he was about to give chase, but Wang Shouzhe stopped him.

"Shuzhu, there's no need for pursuit; he won't get away."

Upon hearing this, Wang Shuzhu immediately halted and obediently stood behind Wang Shouzhe.

Wang Shouzhe maintained his calm demeanor, casually carried the top-grade spirit bow "Fixed Strings" on his back and looked up at the night sky.

There, in the night sky, a figure clad in white appeared, floating in the air. It was none other than the disguised Longyan Old Ancestor.

There was no further need for disguise, and Longyan Old Ancestor no longer deliberately hid her Mysterious Energy characteristics, her entire body suffused with an intense Frost-Killing Air.

The longsword in her hand was also switched from the ordinary low-grade Magical Artifact Long Sword she had used in disguise to the medium-grade Magical Weapon Purple Thunder Sword.

With the strength of Longyan Old Ancestor, she had naturally noticed Zuoqiu Qingyun's escape as soon as it began.

Just as the peach-colored aura was about to whisk away, Longyan Old Ancestor hesitated not, her aura abruptly exploded.

In an instant.

A vague figure of a woman suddenly appeared behind her, mighty, unyielding, and an overwhelming aura surged out like the connection between heaven and earth.

This image was indeed the Dharma Shadow of Elder Longyan!

Ever since she advanced to the Tianren Realm, this was the first time Longyan revealed her Dharma Shadow.

Herself now a Great Sky Pride, since her advancement to the Tianren Realm, her bloodline naturally metamorphosed into the Fifth Layer.

The Fourth Layer bloodline is also known as "Spiritual Body", while the Fifth Layer bloodline, also known as "Taoist Body", is even more terrifying than the Spiritual Body.

At this moment, under the stimulation of Bloodline Power, the towering Dharma Shadow behind her is like a proud Ice Goddess standing atop snow peaks, radiating terrifyingly formidable and inviolable might.

Simultaneously.

She flicked her wrist, and the surging Mysterious Energy flowed into the Purple Thunder Sword under the support of her Dharma Shadow. A sword light suddenly shot out.

Sword intent spread across the sky.

Like a collapsing snow peak or an erupting thunderbolt, the terrifying power seemed capable of tearing the sky apart.

The overpowering Frost-Killing Air spread in an instant, engulfing the world.

The earth's surface quickly froze layer after layer of frost tinged with black Evil Qi. Even the blossoming peaches on the trees were frozen in ice.

The Frost-Killing Air spread, the frost followed suit, and the temperature in the peach grove fell dramatically. In an instant, a region nearly a kilometer wide was transformed into a land of ice and snow.

Tianren Realm is so-called "Heavenly Human" because at this realm, a formidable person can change the weather and terrain in an instant, possessing unimaginable formidable power for mere mortals.

With wide eyes brimming with fear, Zuoqiu Qingyun being possessed by the elder, asked.

How could it be? This lady is clearly only at the early stages of the Tianren Realm. How can her sword intent and Mysterious Energy be so strong?

Chapter 75 Shou Zhe Helps Tian Yan Immortal Detoxify_1

...

"Zuoqiu lad, relax your body!"

Alarm bells rang in Elder Jiang's mind. Despite the considerable depletion of his Divine Soul Power, he immediately controlled Zuoqiu Qingyun's body, and desperately spurred his Small Divine Power, attempting to dodge the Sword Intent with speed.

However, Elder Jiang was now merely a Spirit Remnant. Despite using the Small Divine Power through his Divine Soul Power, constrained by Zuoqiu Qingyun's strength, the power actually brought into play was less than a tenth of the true Small Divine Power. How could he escape it?

Before the brilliant light could escape a few feet away, the chilling Sword Intent had already caught up, falling directly on the strange peach-red light.

The vibrant light burst at that instant. The dazzling radiance almost illuminated half of the sky.

Half a beat later, a deafening roar came from the peach grove, as if thunder was exploding, as if the Tianhe river had burst its banks, echoing through the night.

What came next was the energy shock wave that attacked like a surging wave rolling over the area.

The entire peach forest started swaying wildly. Nearby peach trees were uprooted entirely, and even those far away had countless branches sheared off. Numerous flower petals were torn down, dancing wildly in the sky.

Wang Shouzhe, dozens of feet away, was affected to a significant extent. He had no choice but to direct the vines to shield himself in the center.

After the shock wave passed, a huge crater appeared in the peach forest.

In the center of the crater, lay the bisected body of Zuoqiu Qingyun. Blood gushed out from the severed part of his body, staining the ground around him red in mere moments.

In the night sky, Elder Longyan had already withdrawn her sword after executing the attack.

Under the rustling night wind, she was floating in the air, her clothes fluttering, looking like an ethereal being descended from an immortal palace, untouched and inviolable.

Time seemed to stand still at this moment.

At the bottom of the crater, Zuoqiu Qingyun, being a strong cultivator in the advanced stage of the Spirit Platform Realm, still teemed with vitality and was not completely dead.

Blood kept pouring out of his throat, his bloodshot eyes were fixed on Elder Longyan, full of disbelief: "Gr, Great Heavenly Proud... you are actually the Great Heavenly..."

Only the Great Heavenly Proud could slay him with a single stroke of the sword.

Such a pity.

No one would answer his question.

Before he could finish speaking, he rolled his eyes and lost all life.

"Damn it! I just finally revived my Divine Soul and was preparing to cultivate a new body, but I encountered this disaster!" From within Zuoqiu Qingyun's Spiritual Platform, the fragmented divine soul of Elder Jiang was both terrified and furious.

However, he wouldn't die alongside Zuoqiu Qingyun.

Taking advantage of Zuoqiu Qingyun's Spiritual Platform still not collapsing and the consciousness not completely dissipating, he hurriedly detached and latched onto a jade pendant on his waist.

The previous battle had consumed too much of his Divine Soul Power. At this moment, his fragmented Divine Soul was extremely weak. But even so, he once again stimulated the Divine Soul Power, surrounded the jade pendant, and hovered low over the ground to flee.

The peach forest was lush, with weeds everywhere, and the jade pendant was very small. Covered by the weeds, it went unnoticed.

"Hehehehe~ No matter how cunning Wang Shouzhe is, he certainly wouldn't expect my existence." Inside the jade pendant, Elder Jiang sneered non-stop, harboring resentment in his heart, "A gentleman's revenge is not too late even after ten years. When I escape from here, find a suitable body, and succeed in cultivating again, it won't be too late to seek revenge against Wang Shouzhe."

However.

He had only flown a dozen feet stealthily before being whipped back by a vine that sprouted out from who knows where, and then was stepped on by a foot, directly pressed into the flower mud.

"As expected." Wang Shouzhe's voice came from above his head, "I've always felt that Zuoqiu Qingyun is very strange, and indeed, there is something weird about him."

How could it be?!

Elder Jiang was so shocked that he was completely dumbfounded.

After two to three moments, he then suddenly reacted, both shocked and angry, struggling violently: "How is it possible? How could you find me?! With your age and experience, how could you know about such sophisticated and clandestine matters as 'Spirit Parasitism'?"

The voice of the Divine Soul resonated through the air, sounding like a human voice. Only, the voice was slightly echoes due to lack of cohesion, not entirely clear.

Wang Shouzhe let out a sneer.

Indeed, he had never heard of anything like "Spirit Parasitism" in this Profound Martial world.

But he had read many fantasy novels in his last life. What with all the old-gentleman stories, system novels, and various sign-in quests... he had read at least several hundred, if not a thousand.

With all the mystery and noticeable changes of Zuoqiu Qingyun, a mere mid-late stage cultivator of the Spirit Platform Realm, he could suddenly burst out with the capabilities to battle on par with the Heavenly Human Realm.

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If he were the Great Heavenly Proud, it would make sense with the advantage of his bloodline but it was evident that what he was using was not Bloodline Power, implying there must be some other special power.

With Wang Shouzhe's knowledge and caution, how could he not be more vigilant?

However...

"Turns out, it's the outdated old-gentleman genre. I thought it was a system~" Wang Shouzhe glanced at the jade pendant and couldn't help shaking his head, slightly disappointed.

Systems are very useful.

Just look at their Wang family. Since they got the System "Little Snow", not only has the internal management efficiency greatly improved, but the storage, sorting, and usage of data information have also become a lot more convenient.

Chapter 75 Shou Zhe Helps Tian Yan Immortal Detoxify_2

Just imagine, the intelligence network developed by the Wang family receives a vast sea of information from various counties. This information is peppered with a great deal of redundant data. Without a system to assist in filtering and sorting, the task of processing this plethora of information could be enough to make anyone's head spin.

Moreover, when humans manually process information, mistakes are inevitably made in the face of an overwhelming amount of data. The reliability of using a system for these tasks far surpasses that of human intervention.

This is only the most basic system. If Zuoqiu Qingyun truly possesses the kind of personal system found in fictional stories, then the collateral benefits would be considerable~

While Wang Shouzhe was deep in thought,

Suddenly.

A flash of light burst from the jade pendant, and a dark grey shadow resembling smoke leapt out, baring its fangs and claws. Without warning, it lunged towards Wang Shouzhe's head.

"Ha ha ha~~Boy, obediently let this old man into your Spiritual Platform~ hehehe~~~ I can assure you that I will help you become an unrivaled power, control the world at your leisure, lie with beautiful women, and perhaps even become a ruler, with a good chance of taking command of a whole country."

Accompanied by successive evil laughter, the dim shadow disappeared in the air with a flash.

Before Wang Shouzhe could react, the dark grey "smoke" had already entered his forehead.

From Elder Jiang's point of view, although his Divine Soul Power was nearly depleted, dealing with Wang Shouzhe, a mere youngster in the late stages of the Spirit Platform Realm, was more than enough.

However, his Divine Sense had just entered Wang Shouzhe's sea of consciousness and yet had not begun to probe the Spiritual Platform before it hit an impregnable wall, unable to advance an inch further.

At the same time.

Behind Wang Shouzhe, faint blue light suddenly emerged.

Within the light, a vague and blurry figure sat cross-legged, surrounded by a vibrant life force. The totem-like intricacies were intermittently visible within the light, exuding immense majesty and sanctity. At first glance, it appeared like an ancient deity which would cause anyone's heart to waver.

This apparition was indeed Wang Shouzhe's Dharma Shadow.

As soon as the Dharma Shadow appeared, Elder Jiang's spirit remnant was immediately ejected from the sea of consciousness, and an intimidating pressure instantly heavily suppressed it.

"How is this possible? How can your Spiritual Platform Divine Sense be so powerful?" Elder Jiang's Spirit Remnant couldn't believe it, "You, you, you...your bloodline has actually reached the Spiritual Body! How is this possible? You, you are also a Great Heavenly Proud?!"

Today, are Great Heavenly Prouds so invaluable? Do you just bump into two of them? And are both from the same family?

Wait a minute!

His attention was suddenly drawn to the Dharma Shadow behind Wang Shouzhe, and his voice became sharp: "Dharma Shadow...why is your Dharma Shadow so...terrifying...young man, no, young master, please spare me~~~I, no, your humble servant was wrong!"

This sequence of events left Wang Shouzhe slightly bewildered too.

He didn't want that old ghost's Divine Soul dwelling in his Spiritual Platform. He instinctively exerted his Divine Sense power to resist and expel the soul, but unexpectedly, he has coalesced the Dharma Shadow.

What he didn't expect even more, was the intimidating aura emitted by the Dharma Shadow. It could completely suppress the old ghost's fragmentary Divine Soul, preventing it from moving a single inch.

"Shouzhe, are you alright?" the Old Ancestor Longyan descended from the sky, asking with concern.

"Rest assured, Ancestor," Wang Shouzhe was slightly embarrassed, "This time, I was too reckless, and almost fell for this old ghost's trick."

Although this Spirit Remnant used to be a formidable entity, without a physical body to rely upon, the Remnant Soul was in reality quite vulnerable.

The inner sea of consciousness was after all the home ground of the cultivator, holding the home ground advantage. Barring a bloodline as strong as Wang Shouzhe's, or someone who had specifically refined their Divine Soul, it was difficult for the Spirit Remnant to successfully dwell in the body.

Furthermore, even if the Spirit Remnant was able to successfully dwell in the body, it was impossible to instantly take control of the new body. It would necessarily undergo a lengthy process of adjustment, or require special secret techniques in order to successfully take over.

If there had been fewer restrictions, this spirit remnant would have long since wiped out Zuoqiu Qingyun's divine sense and completely assumed control of his body. Would there have been as much trouble in the present situation then?

Of course, this is not to say that the danger did not exist.

Once a Divine Soul has reached a certain level of progression, it will develop many mysteries. Many things are beyond the comprehension and feeling of Wang Shouzhe's current cultivation realm, and there is no guarantee that there won't be any emergencies.

Just in case, by some misfortune, the Spirit Remnant successfully dwells in the body, Wang Shouzhe might not immediately lose control over his body, but his future actions would inevitably be hindered. Moreover, if he succumbs to severe injury, or if his mind is lost in an illusion, it would present an opportunity for the Spirit Remnant to temporarily gain control over his body.

At that point, Heaven only knows what that spirit could do with his body.

Thinking about these potentially troublesome situations made Wang Shouzhe feel a chill down his spine. He felt that he had been too careless. His Storage Ring did not have any items prepared in advance to restrict or seal the Spirit Remnant.

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What would happen if his Divine Soul and Dharma Shadow were not that strong, or if the old ghost had other means?

"This isn't your fault," Old Ancestor Longyan reassured him, seeing his confusion. "Instances of Divine Realm Powerhouses leaving behind a Spirit Remnant are extremely rare and are scarcely recorded in the annals. Lack of relevant experience and complete information naturally makes it difficult to anticipate everything."

With that, a chilling light flashed in her eyes. An endless killing intent enveloped the old ghost's Spirit Remnant, as if in the next moment, a sword intent would tear it to shreds.

Chapter 75 Shou Zhe Helps Tian Yan Immortal Detoxify_3

Wang Shouzhe is the dear younger generation of Elder Longyan, and is also currently the most important person in the Changning Wang Clan. What would she, Wang Longyan, do if something were to happen to him?

"Spare me, Immortal lady, spare me~~~" The old ghost's remnant spirit felt the impending doom, and sent out a desperate plea for mercy, resonating through the air.

"Elder, please stay your hand." Wang Shouzhe intervened, "This old ghost's origin is unclear, we will make a decision after the interrogation."

"Hmph!"

Elder Longyan snorted coldly, retracting her pressure, but her divine sense still firmly locked onto the remnant of the old ghost's soul. If he dared to make any sudden movements, she would instantly activate her sword intent to destroy him.

"Speak, what is your origin? And how did you collude with Zuoqiu Qingyun?" Wang Shouzhe stared coldly at the remnant soul, his voice filled with murderous intent, "Don't think about bluffing me with lies. If I find even half a word of falsehood from you, I'll have no choice but to destroy your spirit and soul."

"Yes, yes, yes." The old ghost's remnant soul, having narrowly escaped death, hurriedly spoke in a docile manner, "My surname is Jiang, my name is Yuchen, I am a member of the Rank Four Jiang's Prominent Family of Frost Moon Immortal Dynasty. When I was young, I was also an exemplary figure, full of vigor and promising prospects."

"But things took a turn when the Jiang family was betrayed and besieged by enemies, thousands of our clan members were killed or injured, and only I managed to escape to the frontiers to live a life of hardship. Fortunately, by the grace of heaven, I accidentally obtained the remnants of a predecessor from the Divine Martial Dynasty.

Not only did my bloodline metamorphosed, making me a Great Heavenly Proud, but I also obtained a scrap of a forbidden cultivation technique of the Divine Martial."

"This scrap is called 'Golden Toad Codex', it is a rare codex that can break through the Divine Power Territory. Even in my Frost Moon Immortal Dynasty, such codices that can directly reach the Void Realm are few. Therefore, I cultivated the 'Golden Toad Codex'. After I achieved some progress, I managed to conceal my identity and return to the Immortal Dynasty.

As an Independent Cultivator, I spent thousands of years establishing and developing the 'Golden Toad Teach', and exterminated the enemy families one by one." Stay connected through My Virtual Library Empire

"However, things did not go well for long. The Golden Toad Teach was declared a 'Cult' by the Immortal Dynasty, and they sent troops to suppress it. I barely escaped with my divine soul after fighting to the death with several experts from the Immortal Dynasty. I had no choice but to flee to the savage frontiers to evade pursuit. From then on, I tried to enter soul dormancy.

Until the boy Zuoqiu unintentionally discovered my whereabouts... I made a deal with him, exhausted my divine soul power to help him with his ascension, assisting his bloodline metamorphosis, making him a Sky Pride. As for what happened afterward, I believe you should already know."

Wang Shouzhe quietly listened to his recount of his origins. It seems there are some omissions, but it doesn't seem like he is lying. Besides, there's not much point in crafting such a lie.

"Where is this Frost Moon Immortal Dynasty you speak of? How far is it from Da Qian?" Wang Shouzhe asked.

"I don't know, I was only focused on escaping at that time, all I remember is that I fled very far." Jiang Yuchen, the Old Ghost Jiang, honestly replied, "But when I initially fled here, there was no Great Qian Land, and even Qing An Prefecture was still a savage frontier..."

"Uh..."

Wang Shouzhe was left speechless.

Qing An Prefecture is one of the earliest developed prefectures, with a history spanning thousands of years. So, according to Ghost Jiang, it's very likely that he already existed before the founding of Great Qian Land.

"What kind of divine skills does the 'Golden Toad Codex' possess? Why was Golden Toad Teach listed as a cult?" Wang Shouzhe asked another important question.

Whenever the 'Golden Toad Codex' was mentioned, the Old Ghost Jiang would become alert.

Hence, he perked up and explained in a seductive tone, "It is an amazing dual cultivation technique, which can accelerate the cultivation speed through nurturing tripod furnace, and absorbing the air and blood of the furnace. Moreover, it can unlock personal bloodline power gradually through cultivating higher grade furnace..."

"..."

Wang Shouzhe was once again at a loss for words.

The 'Golden Toad Teach' being identified as a cult was not wronged at all.

Such evil methods that rely on looting others to rapidly enhance one's own power would already cause great harm when spread in a small scale. If it were to burgeon, it would definitely lead to the disillusionment of people, upheaval in the world, and even a direct impact on the balanced structure established with great difficulty among the current prominent families.

If he were the king of the Frost Moon Immortal Dynasty, he would also send troops to annihilate them.

"Shouzhe, don't let greed control you over this cultivation technique.", Elder Longyan fiercely glared at the Old Ghost Jiang, then she anxiously reminded Wang Shouzhe, "Judging from Zuoqiu Qingyun's behavior, this cultivation technique probably has unknown issues."

"Please, rest assured, Elder." Wang Shouzhe seriously replied, "Why should our Wang Clan take the risk to cultivate such evil techniques when we can develop uprightly. Steady growth step by step is the right way for a prominent family to develop."

Initially, when he heard about the "Codex", he was quite interested.

But now, it seems this thing turned out to be valueless.

If he dared to cultivate this technique, once word got out, it would most likely implicate Wang Clan in being exterminated by Daqian Officials. Plus, looking at the old ghost and the recklessness of Zuoqiu Qingyun as if their minds are completely blocked, this codex probably has severe side effects.

"I'm glad you understand..." Elder Longyan sighed with relief.

This is what satisfied her the most about Wang Shouzhe, he always took the steady approach in everything, never taking unnecessary risks.

Through this conversation, the Old Ghost Jiang became anxious and hurriedly said, "Young Master, you are of the Great Heavenly Proud lineage, the cultivation of the 'Golden Toad Codex' is most

suitable for you. It does not only enhance the cultivation speed but also makes you irresistible in terms of romantic relationships...Every immortal or saintess will fall at your feet... "

Chapter 75 Shou Zhe Helps Tian Yan Immortal Detoxify_4

"Shut up." Longyan, the Old Ancestor's face behind her veil flushed slightly, a killing intent abruptly appeared, she said, "Shouzhe, this old ghost isn't any good. We might as well just kill him."

"Well ... let's keep him for now." Wang Shouzhe said as he put the jade pendant and the ghost spirit into his Storage Ring, and explained, "Codexes are hard to come by, even the Academic Palace and Sacred Land do not have many. At most, we can take it to the Academic Palace and exchange it for something. Even trading for a Top Grade Cultivation Technique would be extremely worthwhile."

Even if it has serious flaws or adopts a perverse method of cultivation, this Codex that has attained a "Codex" level must have its own unique points. Even if it can't be used directly for cultivation, it can't guarantee that a big shot won't be inspired by it and derive some other Divine Skills. Find your next read at My Virtual Library Empire

Tianhe, the Enlightened One, should be interested in it.

Poor Old Ghost Jiang probably never dreamed that one day he would become a piece of merchandise...

...

Almost at the same time.

Cloud Reliance Pavilion.

Wang Shihai and the others were eager to sacrifice themselves to detoxify Tian Yan, the Immortal.

However, after she vented her anger, they were expelled from the Cloud Reliance Pavilion. In her own words when she flared up, if this toxin really needs such requirements to detoxify, she would rather find a dog and not let them benefit.

Those five guys, after all, are not the kind of madcap like Zuoqiu Qingyun, they walked away dejectedly seeing Tian Yan, the Immortal, flare up.

Tian Yan, the Immortal, staggered back to her usual resting quarters, sat cross-legged, trying to use her powerful Divine Soul power to expel the "Golden Cicada Crisp Soul Scatter".

However, as time went on little by little.

She spent two incense sticks' worth of time, but instead of forcing out the toxins of the Golden Cicada Crisp Soul Scatter, things became even worse, making her develop many unprecedented distractions.

"Damn Zuoqiu Qingyun." Tian Yan, the Immortal, felt a burning uncomfortableness all over her body, her mind was full of fantasies, already reaching the point where it was hard to control herself, which made her feel resentful and started swearing, "You better not fall into my hands, otherwise I will make you unable to live or die."

"And Wang Shouzhe, he's such a jerk. I, the missy, cleared the enemies for him, but he didn't even show up... He's even worse than those silly jerks."

"What's so great about being good-looking? Damn I... Eh? Master Shouzhe..."

Just as she was cursing, she suddenly noticed that Wang Shouzhe had broken in through the window, and was looking at her with a smile that was not quite a smile.

She hastily swallowed half of the vulgar words that she was going to say, and feigned a cough, she said faintly, "Master Shouzhe, I'm unfortunate enough to be poisoned, and I'm not thinking clearly. For Master to honor with your presence, I beg..."

"Don't pretend, it's disgusting to listen to." Wang Shouzhe chuckled softly, "When you curse people, it sounds a bit more genuine."

He had dealt with Zuoqiu Qingyun, packed up his spoils of war, destroyed the corporal evidence and rushed back intending to detoxify Tian Yan. However, he had not thought that he would surprisingly see her cursing...

Tian Yan, the Immortal, gave him a sideways glance, and asked, "Is Master Shouzhe here to make fun of me?"

As she was saying this, a light bulb lit in her mind, and she suddenly understood, "I see, I see. Master Shouzhe is really good at planning and strategizing, playing everyone like a fiddle. Was it really that hard for you to be in the same boat as me?"

Wang Shouzhe sighed, "Alas~ This was just my last resort. The struggle for the Emperor's son involves a wide range, the vortex is too deep, and I really can't afford it."

"If that's the case, what is Master Shouzhe back here for?" Tian Yan, the Immortal, spoke with anger, "Could it be that you think it's not enough to just make a fool out of me? You still want to come see my miserable situation? Are you satisfied now? You can leave, the farther the better. Just because you're good-looking doesn't mean you can do whatever you want."

"If the Immortal wants me to leave, Shouzhe naturally has to leave." Wang Shouzhe smiled, gave her a salute and turned to leave, "I initially intended to detoxify the Immortal, but since the Immortal doesn't need it, I must have been too meddlesome."

"Help me detoxify?" Tian Yan's eyes lit up. She felt a surge of weakness in her body, and she immediately replied in a tender voice, "Master, don't go, I'm afraid I can't detoxify without you."

She felt a sense of shyness in her heart that was mixed with anticipation and pride. As long as Master Shouzhe detoxifies her, wouldn't she rightfully be his then?

For a time, Tian Yan's hatred for Zuoqiu Qingyun evaporated without a trace, and she even felt a little grateful to him.

"In that case, let me detoxify you." Wang Shouzhe came back and saluted in greeting, "Things are urgent, I hope you can forgive me if I offend you."

Senior?

Hmph~~ At this point, he still calls me "Senior". After we've done the deed, the first thing the missy will do is to make you change the damn name.

But right now, she's at the crucial point and doesn't have time to fuss about too much. She closed her eyes tightly and said shyly, "It's my first time, Master please be gentle~"

"I apologize. Please relax, Senior, it's also my first time dealing with this kind of poison..."

Wang Shouzhe said, and then went to the side of the bed.

An hour later.

After Wang Shouzhe finished detoxifying her, he left.

However, Tian Yan, the Immortal, was sitting cross-legged on the bed, completely dressed, not even a hair was out of place.

She stared at the door with a strange expression for a while, flames of anger gradually burst from her blank eyes, "Damn Wang Shouzhe! You actually detoxified me in such an upright manner... You're insulting me~"

"Zuoqiu Qingyun, you idiot! You said that the poison had to be detoxified in that way? You can't even mix a poison well, and then it was so easily detoxified by someone else... You're useless~~ No wonder you were easily played by Wang Shouzhe!"

A series of curses echoed one after another in the room, penetrating the yarn window, they soon disappeared into the chaotic Wild Marsh Stone Forest, unheard again.

Chapter 76: Return Home! All are Grandfathers~_1

...

Time speeds by, and in the wink of an eye, more than ten days have passed. Discover hidden tales at My Virtual Library Empire

Upon the beautiful Dong Cha Cha Lake, a splendidly designed pleasure boat swayed.

This was none other than the famed Tian Yan Boat.

Within the spacious loft of the pleasure boat.

A group of young people, elegantly dressed and refined, sipped fine wines, listened to elegant music, and told exaggerated tales.

"The story goes, on a dark and stormy night..." The Little Commandery Prince, Wu Jinghao, spoke with dramatic flair, "That insane Zuo Qiu Qingyun used the despicable method of poisoning..."

A quarter of an hour later.

"I, Little Commandery Prince, Wu Jinghao, fought that villain for three hundred rounds!"

A quarter of an hour later.

"Unexpectedly, that villain cheated ..."

A quarter of an hour later.

"Although that villain hurled all kinds of abuse at me, I remained unmoved ... Of course, Shihai's performance was slightly less impressive than mine, but overall, it was acceptable."

"The Little Commandery Prince is mighty; the Little Commandery Prince is powerful."

A dozen or so young masters all praised the Little Commandery Prince in different ways.

"Little Commandery Prince, do tell us more about Immortal Cao Youqing. Is she really as formidable as rumored?"

"Immortal Youqing, ah, even though she exhausted all methods to hide her origins, my sharp eyes pierced through her disguise..."

"Little Commandery Prince, I heard that your father was put under house arrest?"

"Of course, just a few days ago, Master Yaoguang from Qing'an College personally visited our Southern Desert County Town. In front of the Prefectural Governor, my father, and the Zuo Qiu

family's Old Ancestor, I displayed the Sky Mechanism Recording Disk. Alas, you cannot imagine the scene.

"Master Yaoguang first saw the earlier part of the recording where Zuo Qiu Qingyun was all arrogant. Subsequently, he saw the later part where his younger day's recklessness still hadn't faded, this led to him furiously crushing the Sky Mechanism Recording Disk."

"My father was reprimanded by my mother and put under house arrest."

"There is one more thing you wouldn't guess. The Zuo Qiu family has a mansion named 'Qian Garden' in Southern Desert County. After the incident involving Zuo Qiu Qingyun, the Prefecture Mansion sealed and searched it. Guess what they found in the secret room? Unthinkably scandalous evidence!!"

"Thank goodness Shihai and I had already discovered that Zuo Qiu Qingyun was a rotten lot."

"The Little Commandery Prince and Shihai have truly accomplished a great merit this time. It's said that the Prefectural Governor rewarded them greatly. The Commandery Prince Consort of the Southern Desert even awarded the Little Commandery Prince one million Qian Gold."

The Little Commandery Prince beamed with pride and announced, "Everyone, eat and drink as you wish, it's all on me! Tian Yan, play us another song~"

The Fairy Tian Yan seated beside them, smiled sweetly, but her face beneath the veil seemed a bit rigid. These cheeky devils, boasting without end.

If not for the memory of them stepping up to play the hero in the past, Fairy Tian Yan might just kick them all into the river.

Even Wang Shouzhe sat to one side, chuckling as he watched the scene and occasionally enjoyed a sip of his wine, seemingly in good spirits. These unruly and carefree young people reminded him of his own lost youth.

He didn't despise the Little Commandery Prince and Wang Shihai. Compared to the malice hidden deep within Zuo Qiu Qingyun's core, these young people were somewhat naïvely endearing.

"Are you satisfied now?" Fairy Tian Yan gave him a glance before transmitting her voice, "You masterminded everything, eliminated all risks while severing ties with me."

"Fairy mustn't spout nonsense." Wang Shouzhe replied with a smile, "I had no part in this affair. The Little Commandery Prince and others can testify, it was the Sky Pride, Cao Youqing's doing."

"Cao Youqing, huh~" Fairy Tian Yan muttered with a belly full of complaints she couldn't voice.

...

Several days later.

Wang Shouzhe bid farewell to the family of the Southern Desert and embarked on the journey home.

The Southern Desert Wang Clan also announced that they would soon send young members and elders to visit the Wang Clan and Changning Wang Clan in Longzuo.

However, Wang Shihai was somewhat impatient and left with Wang Shouzhe in advance.

Although this journey to the Southern Desert exhausted two to three months of Wang Shouzhe's time, the gains were substantial. The "Ultimate Treasure Pill" allowed Wang Shouzhe to successfully advance to a Great Heavenly Proud.

In addition, the relationship with the Southern Desert Wang Clan also warmed significantly. There were many other small gains as well.

As for the journey home, let's not dwell on it for now.

Today's Wang Clan is no longer the weak Clan of the past. Even if Wang Shouzhe, the Clan Leader, wasn't home for a short time, the Clan would continue to develop smoothly along its normal track.

Changning Guard, Ping'an Town.

By Zhuwei Lake.

As June drew near, the weather became increasingly hot. The filling of grains in the wheat was finished, and bunches after bunches of golden, full, heavy wheat spikes hung in the wheat fields by the lake, a scene of bountiful harvest was laid out.

On the embankment of the lake, shirtless tenant farmers were opening the sluice gates to let the water flow, using the water system built by the Wang family to draw lake water into the trenches for irrigating the wheat fields.

On the wide cement road, women were carrying baskets, leading their children through, sending food to their men in the fields.

Glittering waves adorned the surface of the lake. From time to time, fishing boats skimmed across the lake, creating ripples across the water. Across the lake, one could glimpse the silhouette of Zhuwei Manor.

Occasionally, the head of household with a team of house servants would pass by the lake on patrol. These house servants were all dressed in uniform, equipped with knives at their waists. They looked lively and disciplined, giving a strong sense of security at just a glance.

Chapter 76: Return Home! All are Grandfathers~_2

No matter how many storms raged in the outside world, life here remained as normal and mundane as every other day.

From afar, everything seemed busy and calm, like a scroll of paintings unfolding, each frame soaking in the tranquil beauty of fleeting time.

The towering archway at the entrance of the Wang family was bathed in sunlight, looking grand and majestic.

This archway was bestowed by the Government Office, representing the prominent family's facade. The higher the family's status, the more majestic the archway, and the more intricate the carvings on it.

Commoners often referred to the advancement of a prominent family as "changing the door lintel", which is derived from this practice.

Over the past two decades, the Wang family's archway had been replaced twice. The current wooden archway, representing a 7th-rank Aristocratic Family, stood over nine feet tall and was indeed awe-inspiring.

Under the archway, a group of people had gathered at some unknown time.

Among this group, a middle-aged woman in her forties or fifties stood at the forefront.

She was dressed in a luxurious brocade robe, dignified, holding the hands of a four-five-year-old boy, with maids and servants trailing. It was clear she was of high status.

Liu Feifei and Wang Shicheng had only just approached the archway when they noticed this group of people. They promptly presented themselves: "Sixth Grandmother, Ninth Uncle".

It turned out that this woman was "Ding", sixth of the older generation, the wife of Wang Dinghai - a woman from the Chen Clan.

Hailing from the direct line of descent of the Chen Clan of Donggang, she was much favored in her natal home. Although she had suffered for a few years after marrying into the Wang family, with the rise of the Wang family, she quickly returned to a comfortable life.

As a result, although she was already in her fifties, there were no signs of aging on her face. Rather, she had an air of grace and majesty that younger people did not possess. At first glance, she did not appear to be a daughter-in-law of a direct line, but instead like a noblewoman of a direct lineage.

The boy she was holding was her youngest son, "Shou" generation, the now four-year-old Wang Shoucheng.

"Ah, it's the ones from the Zongchang family!" Seeing Liu Feifei, a smile appeared on the face of Mrs Chen, "I haven't seen you in a while since you went back to the Liu Family in Shanyin."

In the meantime, Wang Shoucheng and Wang Shicheng had already performed their greetings according to seniority and had moved aside to play.

Seeing that the maids and servants were cautiously watching the two young boys, Chen lowered her guard and continued chatting with Liu Feifei: "Did you receive a letter too, telling you to wait here for your husband, Zong Chang?"

"Yes." Liu Feifei nodded with a little embarrassment, "A few days ago my husband sent a letter saying he would be returning today, so I brought Shicheng out to welcome him."

Ever since the Wang family obtained the Expansion Order last year, Wang Zongchang had been dispatched to the frontier. Although he occasionally sent letters and she could hear some news from her fourth sister-in-law, she had not seen him for so long that she was getting a bit restless.

Mrs. Chen, who had also been in her shoes as a young woman, immediately understood Liu Feifei's feelings and couldn't help laughing, "Your husband Zongchang is quite accomplished. He managed to take charge of the exploration and reclamation of the frontier with his father-in-law while still in his thirties. Unlike the men of our family, who were still stuck in the Qi Refinement Realm at his age."

Mrs. Chen's father-in-law was Old Ancestor Xiao Han.

As the second ancestor of the Changning Wang Clan, besides Old Ancestor Longyan, to advance to the Spirit Platform Realm, although Old Ancestor Xiao Han's bloodline was not as superior as Zongchang and other young Sky Prides, his two decades of hard cultivation was not in vain.

Moreover, Wang Shouzhe had specifically purchased the Bone Marrow Cleansing Pill for Old Ancestor Xiao Han, helping him raise his bloodline to the second level.

After the summer harvest last year, Old Ancestor Xiao Han's cultivation base finally broke through to the Level Three of the Spirit Platform Realm. As a result, he was placed in charge of the frontier, alongside Wang Zongchang, responsible for its exploration and development.

The wisdom of the older generation gathered over time is irreplaceable and beneficial to the younger generation.

"Sixth Grandmother, you shouldn't say that." Liu Feifei laughed, "Uncle Shou Ye is now apprenticed to Master Danding. I'm sure your best days are yet to come."

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"Ah, what good days? My life is filled with worry." Although she felt flattered, Mrs Chen sighed, "Shou Ye does set me at ease, but Shou Ming and Luo Qing, these two children, they're both so stubborn. No matter how much I tried to persuade them, they insisted on going to the frontier. Every day I worry, fearing that one day, I'll wake up and...never mind, I don't want to talk about it."

Upon hearing this, a look of worry appeared on the face of Liu Feifei, but she still attempted to comfort Mrs. Chen.

While they were talking, a massive procession of carriages suddenly appeared on the wide cement road. Although the procession was still far away, the flags fluttering amidst the team signaled that it was the Wang family's procession.

Mrs Chen and Liu Feifei abruptly stopped talking, anticipation burning in their eyes.

Quickly, the procession arrived at the square outside the archway, and the guards loudly directed the household servants to unload the cargo.

In the team, someone noticed Mrs Chen and Liu Feifei waiting under the archway and quickly dispatched a servant to notify others.

Soon enough, several young men rode out from the procession and rapidly approached the archway.

All of these men were in their youth, but the man leading them was particularly noteworthy. With bright eyes and daunting brows, he was Wang Zongchang, the second of the "Zong" generation of the Wang Family.

He was once accidentally infected by the Bridal Clothes Blood Gu, which ended up being a blessing in disguise as his bloodline transformed. Later, he broke through the trial of the Divine Martial Dynasty and acquired the Junior Bloodline Talent Improvement Liquid. After using it, his bloodline transformed once again, breaking through to the Top Grade, becoming the highly-praised Sky Pride.

Chapter 76: Return Home! All are Grandfathers~_3

Despite not being the top in the prolific Wang family, his talents in the Academic Palace could undoubtedly earn him the title of a direct disciple of the Purple Abode. In any setting, he could be praised as a "youthful elite."

At a young age of thirty-five, he broke through to level three of the Spirit Platform Realm two years ago, becoming a core force within the Wang family, qualified to rule over an area.

Despite his younger generation, even some of the youths from the Shou and Luo generations greatly respected his strength and capacity.

"Husband."

Upon seeing him, Liu Feifei immediately walked over with Wang Shicheng, her face filled with excitement.

Wang Zongchang, seeing his wife, also felt a surge of excitement. He quickly dismounted his horse and greeted her, "It must have been hard for you to handle the household chores,"

At the time, he met Liu Feifei by chance when he went to the Liu family in Shanyin to help his fourth uncle. He was immediately attracted by her gentle demeanor.

Following a few encounters, he found her even more gentle and adorable, then returned home and pleaded to his parents and fourth uncle to propose marriage to the Liu family on his behalf.

Over the years, he has often been away from home, and it's lucky that Feifei has been fulfilling filial duties on his behalf in front of his parents.

"My husband has been working hard outside for the family," said Liu Feifei, quickly returning a curtsy and blushing, "All I did was fulfill my duty."

"Daddy." Called the young toddler-like Wang Shicheng, dragging Wang Zongchang's sleeve, "You've been away for such a long time, did you bring a gift for me?"

"Yes, yes, of course." Wang Zongchang joyfully picked up his son, "Wait until we get home. After daddy checks your homework, I'll give you a present."

And just like that, they happily conversed as a family of three.

A little distance away, Wang Shouming of the Shou generation and Wang Luoqing of the Luo generation watched, Wang Shouming sighed, "Our Zong Chang was once a charming and well-

mannered gentleman. Many ladies from prominent families had a crush on him. It's a shame that he's now settled into a humdrum life. He only learnt from fourth brother's example~"

"Brother~ You've spent some time abroad and now you've become quite bold. You dared to make fun of Zong Chang and even disrespected our fourth brother." Laughed Wang Luoqing, "Wait till I tell on you."

"Sister, my dear sister~" Wang Shouming immediately begged, his face dropped, "I was just teasing, if fourth brother heard this, who knows what kind of punishment awaits me."

"Alright then, give me the Little White Fox spirit beast you found in the foreign realm," Wang Luoqing said slyly, fluttering her bright eyes, "Then I'll keep your secret."

"No way! You're a lady, why would you want a fox?" Wang Shouming wouldn't budge.

"You're a boy, why would you want a fox? Wang Shouming, you're going to end up single."

"Joking, me, the grand eighth son of the Wang family... no, I don't need a wife, women are such a hassle."

"Hmph!"

Suddenly!

A loud, clear cry echoed through the sky.

A Spirit Bird Flying Carriage dived from the clouds, it circled twice in quick succession before it steadily fell in front of the main entrance of the Wang family residence.

From the carriage came the elders: Longyan, Wang Shouzhe, and Wang Shihai.

Seeing the elders, people joyfully rushed over, "We greet the Old Ancestor, we greet the Family Head."

"Shihai, come here, let me introduce you to everyone." Wang Shouzhe warmed to the crowd, "This is Wang Shihai from the Southern Desert Wang Family."

"Shihai, this is your second uncle Zong Chang." "Feifei Second Aunt." "Eight grandfather Shouming." "This is your Nine Aunt Luoqing~"

Upon hearing this, the previously ecstatic Wang Shihai went stiff, he had forgotten that his relatives in the Changning Wang Clan all held a high seniority.

Mistake, mistake! Discover stories at My Virtual Library Empire

Wang Shihai felt that his eager trip to the Changning Wang Clan was the biggest mistake of his life!

Chapter 77, The Husband's Great Skills! Concubines are Allowed to Join at Will_1

...

Just as Sixth Uncle Wang Dinghai's wife, Mrs. Chen, led a handsome four or five-year-old boy over to pay their respects.

Wang Shihai's heart "thumped" in his chest, a feeling of dread instantly taking over.

Wang Shouzhe stepped forward, taking the initiative to pay his respects first, saying, "Shouzhe pays his respects to Sixth Aunt."

In every prominent family, the hierarchy of seniority is given utmost importance. Even if one is the Family Head or the Young Clan Leader, the necessary etiquette and respect when meeting elders cannot be neglected.

Even being a Family Head and Young Clan Leader, they should set an example for the clan members, maintaining the unity and harmony within the clan, and exhibiting good family traditions.

Think about it, if Wang Shouzhe, relying on his authority as the Family Head, or his significant achievements, disrespected his elders and didn't care for the younger ones, other clan members would naturally follow his example over time. As time passed, such a family would inevitably become divided and would gradually decay and collapse.

Mrs. Chen first paid her respects to the Old Ancestor, then slightly reserved, she made a bow toward Wang Shouzhe: "I pay my respects to Shouzhe." Subsequently, she nudged Wang Shoucheng, urging him, "Aren't you going to hurry up and pay your respects to your fourth brother?"

"I pay my respects to Fourth Brother." Wang Shoucheng's face was pale with nervousness, his voice milkily sounding out his respects.

The reputation of the fourth brother was rather frightening among siblings and younger generations. Especially for the children of the seventh or eighth generation, once caught by him, he would invariably test them...

If one managed to pass his test, rewards were expected. But if one was caught being lazy, that would spell trouble...he would remember you, keep an eye on you, constantly tormenting you...haunting even your dreams.

All of this came from what his older brothers and sisters told him...

"You've grown quite a bit in just the last half year, Little Nine." Wang Shouzhe wore a kind smile, and extending his arm, he lifted Wang Shoucheng and ruffled his hair, asking "You've started learning recently, right? How many characters have you learned? Can you do arithmetic yet?"

Standing beside him, the somewhat reserved Wang Shouming and Wang Luoqing suddenly stiffened, the gentle tone and caring attitude bringing them back to their "warm" childhood.

There had been numerous instances where they hadn't passed Fourth Brother's tests and then got a beating from their father Wang Dinghai when they got home, being greeted with their mother's crying and scolding for several nights.

"I, I've learned several hundred characters..." The young Wang Shoucheng was extremely nervous, swallowing hard as he spoke, "And I know some basic addition and subtraction."

The mention of this roused Wang Shouzhe from his sleepiness.

He proceeded to test Wang Shoucheng, and despite his nervousness, Shoucheng managed to answer every question which revealed the effort he had put into his studies.

"Well done, very good." Wang Shouzhe gave his approval, saying, "it seems that Sixth Aunt has been putting in effort educating you. Shou Ye was taught well in the past, and now Shoucheng is being brought up pretty well too."

While he was speaking, Wang Shouzhe even leaned toward Sixth Aunt Mrs. Chen: "Sixth Aunt, you have worked hard."

"Not at all, not at all, it's Shou Ye and Shoucheng who are diligent." Mrs. Chen's face was radiant, full of pride.

They exchanged a few more words.

Wang Shouming and Wang Luoqing exchanged glances, their faces full of awkwardness. They only praised Shou Ye and Shoucheng, completely ignoring them. The favorite child, the pampered baby, and the ignored majority in the middle.

After praising Shoucheng, Wang Shouzhe started introducing Wang Shihai: "Shihai, this is our family's ninth member of the Shou generation... this is Sixth Grandmother."

Wang Shihai's heart trembled, his nose tingling, he had already sensed trouble and had retreated, but Fourth Grandfather, you actually haven't forgotten about me, I'm so grateful to you!

But that's just how it is in a prominent family.

You can't ignore hierarchy just because someone is younger. Despite the tears welling up in his eyes, he kept a smile on his face, bowing his hand and said: "Shihai pays his respects to Ninth Grandfather, to Sixth Grandmother."

At this moment, Wang Shihai wished he could go home.

He really shouldn't have come alone, now all the attention was focused on him. Stay updated with My Virtual Library Empire

The next hour.

Wang Shihai didn't even know how he got through it, thank goodness prominent families don't have a tradition of kowtowing, otherwise, he would have been banging his head like smashing garlic!

Afterward.

Wang Shouzhe personally arranged for Wang Shihai's accommodation. Considering his young age and love for new experiences, he was lodged in a luxury hotel owned by the Wang family, in a top-floor suite.

This lakeside hotel was originally built for the Celestial Banquet held in honor of Old Ancestor Longyan. It incorporates many of Wang Shouzhe's modern aesthetics from Earth. The top-floor suite, in particular, was furnished with luxury and cleanliness in mind.

Hot water was available round the clock, including ceramic bathtubs, ceramic toilets, a bright Array Illumination System, and large floor-to-ceiling windows offering a panoramic view of Zhuwei Lake.

Even the maids and attendants wore uniform clothing, thoroughly trained for their roles.

Everything was quite different from the traditional architecture and decoration style of Da Qian.

"Fourth Grandfather~" Wang Shihai felt as if he had entered a wonderland, everything felt fresh and new, "Why is this bed so bouncy? This ceramic toilet feels strange and is connected to the floor, how is the chamber pot supposed to be emptied?"

"The bed has springs underneath... as for the toilet and others, you can take your time to experience them." Wang Shouzhe said, "Push this bell, and a maid or servant will come to attend to you, you can ask them for instructions."

"You've had a long journey, rest for now." Wang Shouzhe said, "Later tonight, I've arranged a welcome banquet for you. I need to return to my home for a bit to deal with some affairs."

Chapter 77, The Husband's Great Skills! Concubines are Allowed to Join at Will_2

"Fourth Grandpa, I'm not tired, I can follow you around everywhere." Wang Shihai was full of energy and appeared ready to follow his fourth grandpa, Wang Shouzhe, wherever he went.

"No, you're tired..." Wang Shouzhe insisted seriously.

"..." Wang Shihai was left utterly confused.

...

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Inside Wang Shouzhe's small courtyard.

Six-year-old Wang Liyue and three-year-old Wang Zongrui were being taken care of by Liu Feifei.

Liu Feifei is Ruolan's niece, who happens to be married to two men from the Wang family. Therefore, Liu Feifei and Liu Ruolan have a particularly close relationship, and the two families frequently visited each other.

"Second sister," little Wang Zongrui tugged at his sister's sleeve, "Why did Dad get whisked away by Mom to the Water Moon Heavenly Pavilion just after he came back? He barely said a few words."

"I'm not sure either." Wang Liyue's tiny mouth puckered up in disappointment. After all, she didn't get the chance to cuddle with her father before he was whisked away by her mother. "It seems like Mom said something about a young concubine and an immortal. She sounded very joyful and pleased, mentioning that Dad's made some achievements and greatly improved..."

"That's praise for Dad! It should be a good thing," Wang Zongrui nodded seriously, "I'm truly happy for him..."

Liu Feifei, who was overseeing them, broke out in cold sweat hearing their conversation. This was far from a good thing... she felt concerning for her uncle Wang Shouzhe... her Aunt Ruolan was not to be trifled with.

...

Meanwhile.

Lingyun Holy Ground, Purple Xiao Sect.

The Purple Xiao Sect is located in the northeastern part of Lingyun Holy Ground, occupying a vast, rugged mountain range.

In the heart of the mountain range, encircled by numerous peaks, lies a deep, secluded valley known as "Thunder Valley."

In the middle of Thunder Valley, there's a hovering mountain known as "Purple Sky Peak."

The entire Purple Sky Peak is formed from thunderstones. From afar, it looks like a sharp sword piercing straight into the sky with thunderclouds densely gathered at the peak. Occasionally, a blast of blue-violet lightning would tear open the night sky, creating a cascading sonic boom. It was truly a sight to behold.

Legend has it that this Purple Sky Peak was created by the first ancestor of the Purple Xiao Sect, "Purple Xiao Enlightened One", and it has a history of 6,800 years.

Unfortunately, for the current generation of the Purple Xiao sect, which is the generation of Purple Xiao Master, it's been two to three generations since the last Enlightened One appeared. Despite the exceptional talent of the current Purple Xiao Master, he has only reached the Peak Purple Abode.

The unsatisfied Purple Xiao Master has already begun his seclusion with a vow to not come out until he reaches the Divine Power Territory.

Fortunately, the Purple Xiao Sect has always dominated with its powerful thunder magic. Even without an Enlightened One, it remains one of the nine sects of the Holy Land and is respected by all.

Surrounding "Thunder Valley" there lies the living quarters of the Purple Xiao disciples. There's a mountain peak with its top leveled off to create a martial arts platform.

As the night fell, many disciples were already gathering on the platform, following the instruction of their senior brothers and sisters in their evening practice.

Depending on their strengths, progress in cultivation, and different cultivation methods, the disciples divided into various groups. Some were practicing the Purple Xiao Thunder

Swordsmanship, some refining their movement techniques and fist styles, and some were even engaged in combat to accumulate battle experience.

In a corner, a few senior brothers and sisters circled together, sharing their insights about cultivation.

The disciples who managed to join Lingyun Holy Ground were all talented individuals who were at the very least considered 'Little Sky Prides' with at least middle grade potentials. For example, when Old Ancestor Longyan first joined Lingyun Holy Ground, he was merely an ordinary disciple.

Only the true Sky Prides were chosen as core disciples for the various mountain peaks and sects to prioritize their cultivation.

Although the number of these disciples was not exceptionally high, they were bona fide elite practitioners. Regardless of who was sent out, they were all considered elites among the elites.

During a break in the evening class, a round-faced young man who had just completed his swordsmanship routine glanced at the distant Purple Sky Peak and sighed, "I wonder how much longer our Master will be in seclusion. I haven't even seen his face since I started my discipleship decades ago."

"Our Master is in a death-close retreat. He won't come out until he reaches Divine Power Territory. How could that be quick?" A fellow disciple with a thin face sighed as well. "I heard that the Skyfire Real Man from the neighboring Skyfire sect took over a hundred and thirty years to break through to Divine Power Territory... and he was a successful case.

Some who failed in their breakthrough ended up passing away during seclusion."

"Don't beat yourselves up. With our talent and strength, even if our Master comes out of seclusion, it'll still be difficult for us to consult with him. If there are problems with our cultivation, we can ask the elders or senior disciples." Another square-faced senior disciple seemed to be more positive.

"Look at Senior Sister Cao. She's been a disciple for one hundred and sixty years.

Our Master has been in seclusion for a hundred years, but she still managed to advance to the seventh level of Heavenly Human Realm."

"Senior Sister Cao?" The thin-faced disciple's eyes lit up, "Are you talking about Sister Cao Youqing who recently emerged in Southern Desert County?"

"Yes, that's her."

"I've heard about her too." The round-faced youth was excited, "Senior Sister Cao is really amazing. She actually discovered Zuo Qiu..."

While they were talking, a hawk's cry suddenly echoed across the night sky.

"Thunder Eagle?"

"Who's come back?"

The disciples were startled and instinctively looked up.

Above them, a huge, blue-violet eagle was descending from the high sky with wings spread wide. The giant wings were reflecting the starlight, looking very majestic.

This was the Thunder Eagle, the exclusive spirit bird mount of the Purple Xiao Sect.

Chapter 77, The Husband's Great Skills! Concubines are Allowed to Join at Will_3

The Thunderhawk is a Level Five Spirit Bird. Once it matures, it possesses the formidable might equivalent to a Heavenly Human Realm Cultivator. Some with exceptionally remarkable talents and bloodlines could even transcend their limits, advancing to become a Level Six, or even a Level Seven "Thunderhawk King".

These Thunderhawks settle at the Welcoming Peak, the gateway to the Sacred Land for a part of their lives. Whenever a disciple of the Purple Xiao lineage returns, they could ride on a Thunderhawk to fly back home, a method much faster than riding on the Sacred Land's flying carriages.

Unfortunately, unlike the gentle nature of the Spirit Tortoise, the Thunderhawks have a stubborn temperament. Though they inhabit the territory of the Purple Xiao lineage, accept their offerings, and agree to carry their disciples as mounts, few disciples can truly tame them and turn them into their spirit pets.

Avoiding the might of thunder surging around the Purple Sky Peak, the Thunderhawk in the night sky took a wide detour and circled around, finally landing on the Martial Arts Platform with flapping wings.

A silhouette gently descended from the back of the Thunderhawk.

It was a woman clad in a plain white gauze dress, with her face veiled and her gown fluttering in the wind.

The faint night colors intertwined with the occasional flashes of thunder, creating an enchanting tapestry of light and shadow in the sky. This caused her plain white dress to appear as if it had been imbued with a soft glow, white in its purest and most translucent form.

This figure was none other than Cao Youqing, returning to Lingyun Holy Ground after a long absence.

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"Cao Sister!"

The round-faced youth was overjoyed.

The others on the Martial Arts Platform also involuntarily ceased their actions, casting admiring glances at her.

All of a sudden.

"Cao Sister! Well done!" Someone took the lead in shouting, "We support you!"

"Yes! We, disciples of the Purple Xiao lineage, should have the courage of Sister Cao to stand up against authority and take bold actions! Pay no mind to their whispers and rumors, we support you!"

"Yes! We are upright and unafraid of retaliation from the Zuoqiu family!"

For a time, the entire Martial Arts Platform was filled with voices of support.

Looking at these passionate faces and their admiring eyes, Cao Youqing was left in confusion.

Why was everyone acting so strangely towards her since she returned this time?

Not to mention the substantial amount of points she received out of nowhere when she came to collect her Sacred Land points, people also started uttering nonsensical words to her. What on earth was going on?

And what about this Zuoqiu Qingyun they mentioned, going against the Zuoqiu family, and fighting against authority? What were they talking about?

She had a vague feeling that something was off.

...

Zhuwei Lake, Changning's Ping'an.

Inside the Water Moon Heavenly Pavilion.

Surrounding water flowed like a whirlpool, surging wildly and crashing against the shores of the island. The roaring waves, like a beast waiting to devour its prey, threatened to swallow the entire island.

However, the island was thriving with life. The rapidly growing leaves and vines resisted the frenzied bombardment of the tides as if they were warriors against a flood, guarding their last line of defense.

"Humph, the Four-Layer Bloodline Spirit Body finally formed!"

"My husband really has become extraordinary, no wonder he couldn't suppress his loneliness and started flirting with enchantresses... Come, try to take this technique. If you can handle it, you may have as many concubines as you want."

"Madam, please listen to my explanation~ I am loyal to you in both body and mind, a love that can be testified by heaven and earth~~This has nothing to do with my increased strength...."

"Loyal in body and mind? Then explain to me why do you seem to know so much? So complex?... So... "

"It was taught to me in a dream ..." Wang Shouzhe explained feebly, "Madam, you also seemed to enjoy it, didn't you?"

"Shameless~Try taking this move!"

"Boom!"

The lake water surged like tidal waves, pushing everything in its way.

Chapter 78: Shou Zhe! Qi People's Fortune_1

...

Four hours later.

The turbulent waves and violent storms gradually dissipated.

The Water Moon Heavenly Pavilion returned to its usual tranquility.

On the waterside platform, the setting sun shone brilliantly. Wang Shouzhe, draped in his robes, relaxed in his chair with eyes half shut, seemingly resting. He was casually playing with an archaic Jade Pendant in his hands.

A moment later.

Liu Ruolan carried a pot of "snow crystal rice, raw-cooked porridge", gently saying, "This is a blood nourishing porridge that I personally made for my husband. You've worked hard over the past few months."

The rice was superior snow crystal spirit rice that only grew in rare ice spiritual veins. From sowing to harvest, a full three years were required, making it extremely nutritious with body nourishing properties due to its long growth cycle.

The eel, a high-quality blood spirit eel from the Peace River, had firm and delicate flesh that benefited both Qi and blood. Coupled with some special spiritual medicine, this porridge was a major tonic.

Liu Ruolan at this moment, with rosy cheeks and a radiant appearance, was full of charm. Although she had given birth to two sons and two daughters for Wang Shouzhe and was nearing her forties, her skin was even more delicate and smooth than when she was first married.

The larger change was that the naïveté from her younger years had been replaced with mature charm.

Wang Shouzhe slightly stiffened, put aside the bowl of porridge, and took Liu Ruolan's hand, "As the main wife, you are responsible for the various duties of the house and have to take care of Liyue and Zongrui. Leave such minor affairs to the cook in the future."

"That's not acceptable." Liu Ruolan lightly raised her eyebrow and softly stated, "Before I got married, my mother told me that no matter how busy I was, I always had to take some time to personally cook some delicious food for my husband."

"Yes, you're right, my dear," Wang Shouzhe picked up the jade pendant and swiftly changed the topic, "Take a look at this, what do you think it is?"

"Is this the ancient jade pendant you mentioned before? Does it really hold a divine soul inside it?" Liu Ruolan curiously picked up the pendant. "I've lived so long but I haven't seen a spirit remnant."

"Be careful, that Old Ghost Jiang is extremely crafty." Wang Shouzhe warned.

However, before Liu Ruolan could respond, Old Ghost Jiang, who had been dormant in the jade pendant for quite some time, made his move.

The jade pendant suddenly glowed brightly, the spirit remnant of Old Ghost Jiang dashed out like a lightning, showing teeth and claws, rushing towards Liu Ruolan.

Accompanying this was a sound produced by the shaking of his divine soul in the air.

"Hahaha~~~ Boy Wang, you are too careless. You gained an advantage once and you no longer put me in your eyes. Do you really think I'm a soft persimmon?! Wait until I occupy her spiritual platform, let's see what you can do!"

To be honest, Old Ghost Jiang wasn't willing to possess a woman's body either, but ever since he fell into Wang Shouzhe's hands, he had been kept in the storage ring without seeing the light of day. This opportunity was too cherished.

If he missed it, chances were he would be thrown back into the storage ring. Even if the price was to live in a woman's body for the rest of his life, it beats having his spirit and soul destroyed and dispersed into nothingness.

This...

This scene seemed very familiar to Wang Shouzhe.

Wasn't this the same sight when old Ghost Jiang tried to possess his spiritual platform?

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With Old Ghost Jiang's weak divine soul power, he couldn't even handle Wang Shouzhe, let alone attempt to possess Liu Ruolan...Ignorance truly knew no fear.

As expected, the moment Old Ghost Jiang's divine soul brushed against Liu Ruolan's forehead and was about to invade the spiritual platform, a flash of blue light appeared in her clear eyes. Under the condensation of powerful god sense, a Dharma shadow suddenly condensed behind her.

It was a shadow resembling a Goddess, with a graceful figure and surrounded by the purest elemental water force. The pressure exuding from her was vast and surging, like an ocean.

Merely with one glance, the powerful god sense pressure firmly suppressed Old Ghost Jiang's spirit remnant.

Old Ghost Jiang felt as if he were crushed by a heavy mountain, unable to move even a slight bit. That strong and terrifying god sense power seemed to tear apart his weak spirit body.

"How...How is this possible?" His remaining consciousness was instantly plunged into endless fear. He shrieked in dismay, "Your god sense power, how can it be so powerful? How can it be even more terrifying than that Wang boy?!"

At that moment, he felt like he was going mad.

What kind of freaks are this Wang family?

The previous boy who was good at using ice-evil infused powers was already beyond Old Ghost Jiang's imagination.

Even in the Frost Moon Immortal Dynasty, such Great Heavenly Prouds were extremely rare and all had high-status. Yet, in this rural place, in a small prominent family, he had seen not one, not two, but three Great Heavenly Prouds!

Could it be... is their family the Daqian Imperial family?

No, no, it's impossible. He has also once inhabited Zuo Qiu Qingyun's spiritual platform and got to know this world. Even within the Imperial family of Da Qian, the Great Heavenly Prouds were few and far between.

Where did this freakish family come from?!

Little did he know.

Although Old Ghost Jiang was in chaos, Liu Ruolan was also surprised by the audacity of this hideous old ghost remnant who attempted to possess her divine soul.

After regaining her composure, her fluffy look instantly turned sharp, and a cold chill filled the air around her.

Chapter 78: Shou Zhe! Qi People's Fortune_2

Bad news, Wang Shouzhe's heart skipped a beat!

It's Liu Ruoling who came out!

Ruoling's temper is not comparable to Ruolan's.

Just as expected.

Liu Ruoling's icy eyes swept over Old Ghost Jiang's spirit remnant. The cold voice rang out like ice, "You're courting death." Following her words, a surge of dominant God Sense congealed like a blade, slashing towards Old Ghost Jiang.

That manifest intention to kill sent Old Ghost Jiang plummeting into an icy pit. The only thought left in his divine soul was... it's over, it's all over. Me, Jiang Yuchen, who has been domineering for so long, will actually die here!

"Ruoling, spare him!" Wang Shouzhe hurriedly cried out. "This old ghost still has the codex tucked away."

"Yes, yes, that's right, I still have the 'Golden Toad Codex.' You can't kill me!" Old Ghost Jiang, clutching this last lifeline desperately, used his divine soul's powers to vibrate the air. "Kill me, and you'll lose everything."

"Foolish." The chill in Liu Ruoling's eyes remained unchanged. Her god sense formed a sledgehammer, suppressing Old Ghost Jiang's spirit remnant, slowly grinding away.

During this process, Old Ghost Jiang's spirit remnant was continually crushed. Although there was no tangible pain, the gradual dispersion of the spirit remnant caused terrible torture to his consciousness.

This process was far more painful than directly killing his spirit.

"Spare me, grand aunt, spare me." The longer Old Ghost Jiang lived, the deeper his attachment to life and fear of death became. He pleaded in great fear.

Liu Ruoling completely ignored his pleas and continued to grind his spirit bit by bit.

Such determination and indifference even gave Wang Shouzhe a chill, making him involuntarily feel pity for Old Ghost Jiang.

Why couldn't you remain quietly in the jade pendant? Why did you have to provoke Liu Ruolan and, as a result, even triggered Liu Ruoling...

"Master Wang, please speak for me. I... I can unconditionally hand over the codex. I can guide your cultivation... after all, I was once a cultivator at the peak of the Divine Power Territory..." Seeing Liu Ruoling unmoved, Old Ghost Jiang shifted his plea to Wang Shouzhe, "Master Wang, control your wife!"

"Uhm..." Wang Shouzhe rolled his eyes. Old ghost, do you think I don't want to interfere? I might be able to control my other wife because she can be reasoned with... but how can I control this wife?

You try controlling her, show me how!

Wang Shouzhe picked up his "Crystal Eel Rice Porridge," slowly took a sip, forcibly suppressing his urge to vomit, and praised, "Your cooking skills are getting better and better, dear. Take your time, Ruoling, I'm in no rush."

An hour later.

Old Ghost Jiang had been completely conquered... he swore a poisonous oath to unconditionally submit to Wang Shouzhe, and all the contents of the 'Golden Toad Codex' were revealed.

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Seeing Ruoling's efficiency, Wang Shouzhe was "shocked" and full of praise, saying, "Wife, you really have a way with things. I was initially worried about this old ghost."

Unexpectedly, Liu Ruoling was unmoved by the flattery. Looking coldly at Wang Shouzhe who had finished the porridge, she simply said, "Come in, let's try the things from the Golden Toad Codex." Then she turned and walked towards the Water Moon Heavenly Pavilion.

Wang Shouzhe shivered all over, hurriedly took two steps forward and said, "Wife, don't joke around. Just now we already had..."

"That was with her..." Liu Ruoling turned her head, her cold gaze sweeping across him, "From now on, whatever she gets, you can't shortchange me."

"How could that be possible?" Wang Shouzhe's heart froze, "Wife, you only come out once every month or two."

"I don't care! You can't go on like this, yet still want to take concubines in? Wang Shouzhe, come in!"

"..." Wang Shouzhe.

...

The next day.

Inside Wang Shouzhe's courtyard.

Early in the morning, Wang Zongchang came to pay his respects to Wang Shouzhe.

This time, his main goal for going with Elder Xiao Han and others to the outer domain wasn't to clean up the fierce beasts out there, but to thoroughly investigate for information and draw a detailed topographic and distribution map of the fierce beasts based on the explored information, providing data support for the next step in the plan.

You must know, the outer territory is vast and not all areas are suitable for human habitation.

Moreover, developing the frontier is not like hunting in the outer territory. It's a time-consuming and laborious process. Not only does it require a systematic extermination of fierce beasts and poisonous insects, but it also involves constructing checkpoints like the "Zhou Xuanguan", artificially bifurcating the developed and undeveloped regions.

Only by doing this can we minimize the risk of dangerous creatures entering future human settlements.

In the follow-up, we still need to reclaim farm fields, establish villages, transfer population... there are countless problems to face. None of these issues are simple.

The process is so time-consuming and fraught with dangers. Therefore, the development of the outer territories cannot be done recklessly.

Which places are suitable for development, where are there dangerous creatures, where the topography and geography are not suitable for human habitation, thus, should be avoided, how large an area to develop, where to build the checkpoints...

All these are not simple matters, involving myriad minutiae. They require discussion at family meetings and need to be repeatedly deliberated upon before finalization.

Wang Zongchang's mission this time only covered a small part of the proposed area.

However, the exploration process did yield quite a few other gains.

What he brought back this time were the spoils of hunting during the exploration with Elder Xiao Han, as well as other valuable collectibles. This included tanned animal hides, preserved Spirit Beast meat, prepared Spiritual Medicine, and even some young Spirit Beasts, Spirit Birds, as well as Spirit Fish fry and other living creatures.

Chapter 78: Shou Zhe! Qi People's Fortune_3

This was also Wang Shouzhe's requirement.

Aside from the top-grade cultivation technique "Red Dragon True Verses", there were also some basic beast-taming methods among the techniques that the Wang family got from the Huangfu Clan in Changning. Even though quite crude, they were enough to tame these low-level spiritual beasts and birds.

Humans' history of taming wild spiritual creatures is very long. The breeds of spiritual meat cows, spiritual meat birds, and spirit fishes that are consumed daily are all bred through years of selection by humans. By now, they have distinct differences from their wild counterparts.

Nevertheless, there are still many species with breeding value among the wild ones. Now that there's an opportunity, Wang Shouzhe will not let it pass.

Having experienced the information overload of the modern society, Wang Shouzhe clearly understands the value of spiritual beasts are far beyond just for consumption.

Although cultivating spirit seeds is more arduous, as long as it's successful, they will become money printing machines in the future.

All these things, Wang Zongchang needs to report to Wang Shouzhe first, and then ask for the next instructions.

Just as Wang Zongchang arrived at Wang Shouzhe's courtyard, he was invited to sit in the pavilion and drink tea by Liu Ruolan who told him his fourth uncle was still sleeping. This made him slightly puzzled, didn't Fourth Uncle's cultivation base already reach the advanced stage of the Spiritual Platform Realm?

It should be that he's full of energy even without rest for several days and nights. By now the sun has risen, but Fourth Uncle is still sleeping?

Moreover, he didn't attend the welcoming banquet for Wang Shihai last night under the pretext of rest... This confused Wang Zongchang, what's happening with Fourth Uncle?

"Your fourth uncle might truly be tired." Liu Ruolan personally served Wang Zongchang fruits, "He handled a lot of affairs during this trip to the Southern Desert. He was snoring through the whole last night."

Wang Zongchang immediately expressed his respect seriously, "Speaking of which, it's our juniors' incompetence. Fourth Uncle has broken his heart for the family over these years. His burden is too heavy."

"Fortunately, there are talented people in every aspect of the family now, and they are in charge. This relieved him a lot." Liu Ruolan said, "Zongchang, you came early, you might not have eaten breakfast yet. It's just right, Liyue and Zongrui just got up for morning lessons. I'm going to cook some fish slice porridge which I have just learnt from the cook."

Your fourth uncle drank a pot yesterday and said it was delicious. You can also have a try~"

Just as she finished speaking.

The faces of Wang Liyue and Wang Zongrui who had just woken up and walked out of their rooms turned pale immediately. Mother, how can you do this? Hearing such bad news early in the morning, how can we get through the day?

"Fourth Aunt!!!" Wang Zongchang stood up with a frightened look on his face, "Fei Fei cooked breakfast this morning, Fourth Aunt don't need to bother."

Just for laughs, his fourth aunt is perfect in every aspect. But, for some reason, in the aspect of cooking skill, she's so... No matter what, Fourth Uncle should take the responsibility, because he compliments his wife too enthusiastically.

Complimenting Fourth Aunt's "cooking skill" to the sky, other people had no choice but to follow suit with excessive praise... As a result, Fourth Aunt always believes that her cooking skill can even discredit the mediocre cooks of Hundred Taste Residence.

Although she occasionally tastes her own cooking and finds the taste somewhat strange, the praise from her husband, all members of the Wang family, and guests made her doubt that her taste is too unique.

"Fei Fei's cooking skill... sigh, let's not talk about her." Liu Ruolan showed an indescribable expression, "In this case, I won't bother cooking. Just tell these two little ones they have no good luck today, let the cook prepare something casually."

The two little ones, Wang Liyue and Wang Zongrui, immediately relieved, sincerely grateful for their mother's mercy in sparing their lives.

"Zongchang, you sit first. I'll go and hurry your uncle up." After saying that, Liu Ruolan hurriedly left.

Then, Wang Zongchang looked at the two little ones, and they shared a knowing glance, feeling that they had narrowly escaped. Stay tuned for updates on My Virtual Library Empire

Wang Liyue and Wang Zongrui came up and saluted, "Second Brother."

Wang Zongchang also returned the courtesy, "Eighth Sister, Tenth Brother, good morning to you."

Wang Liyue is the second daughter in Wang Shouzhe's small family, but in the "Li" generation of the large family, she is the eighth. Therefore, Wang Zongrui calls Wang Liyue "Second Sister" at home.

Outside, they call Wang Liwan, the second one in "Li" generation, "Li Wan Second Sister".

This difference in address represents the difference between a small family and a large family.

Just as the three of them congratulated each other secretly for escaping a disaster.

Inside Wang Shouzhe's room.

He stared at the ceiling with dim eyes, remembering the things that happened last night, he felt as if he had just crawled back from hell, a survivor of a disaster.

He knew that it was Liu Ruoling being jealous and going berserk.

Although Ruolan would also be jealous and throw tantrums, compared with Ruoling, she was vastly inferior.

What made Wang Shouzhe more speechless was that he clearly only had one wife, but he had to bear the jealousy/anger episodes twice... what's even worse, from now on he had to pay the taxes twice, and the worst was that Ruoling's visiting time is too unpredictable.

"Why does my husband look so gloomy?" Liu Ruolan, who had no idea what had happened, came in.

Wang Shouzhe instinctively shrank back a little, "Nothing, I just want to be alone."

Seeing Wang Shouzhe in such a state of accepting his fate, she immediately felt something was wrong, she said with concern and introspection, "My lord, could it be that I have not done well?"

Your future prospects are boundless, indeed you shouldn't just stay with me... If you really want to take a concubine, we can discuss it."

"My Lady, please don't speak like this."

Wang Shouzhe could no longer lie down, he suddenly sat up on the bed, covered Liu Ruolan's mouth, and said affectionately, "With you, the rest of my life is complete."

"My husband, you are truly wonderful."

"No, my lady, you are truly wonderful."

Chapter 79: Giving Birth to Many Children for the Rise of the Wang Family (Request for Monthly Tickets) _1

...

At the same time.

Lingyun Holy Ground.

Xuanmiao Peak.

This is not a high peak, ordinary in appearance, but inside the mountain converges several top quality gold attribute Spirit Veins.

The higher up the mountain, the denser the golden spiritual aura in the air. Near the summit, the golden spiritual aura in the air has become so dense that it is just like fog, clearly visible to the naked eye.

Suddenly.

A huge Thunder Eagle whistled down from the high altitude, flapping its wings and landing on the martial arts platform on the mountainside.

A silhouette floated down from the back of the Thunder Eagle, it was Cao Youqing.

"Sister Youqing."

The disciple in charge of guarding the martial arts platform immediately stepped forward in salute when he saw her.

Cao Youqing casually returns the salute before heading up the mountain.

Out of respect for the master of the mountain, instead of flying directly to the top, she climbed up the stairs.

All the way up, she felt the sharp golden spiritual aura piercing her very bones, like a thorn in her side.

Even though she had been here countless times, every time she felt this way, she still couldn't help but feel emotional.

With her early advanced stage of the Heavenly Human Realm, she still found this environment very uncomfortable. Living here was a matter of maintaining unwavering determination and extraordinary willpower.

However, her strength was undeniable and even on foot, her pace was swift.

Soon, she reached the summit.

Unlike the heavily guarded scene at the foot of the mountain, there was no disciple guarding the summit, no disciple patrolling here, but a solitary palace stands alone in this place.

This was a palace that was entirely carved from metal, towering high, majestic and majestic, with a chilling and dominating aura that seemed capable of tearing apart the sky.

The placard hung at the entrance of the palace bore the three big characters "Xuanmiao Palace."

Cao Youqing couldn't help but take a deep breath, her mind involuntarily a bit nervous.

"Glad to see Sister Youqing." At this moment, a woman wearing palace garments walked out from the side hall and greeted Cao Youqing with a smile, "Sister Youqing, upon hearing of your arrival, Xiaoyue came out in welcome."

This woman wore a modest lotus-colored, narrow-sleeved long dress, her hair simply tied up in an efficient bun on her head, looking dignified and neat.

Compared to Cao Youqing, her appearance might not stand out, but she exuded a warmth and quiet elegance that comes from years of experience, which naturally made people feel close to her.

Cao Youqing's eyes brightened, and she replied back, "Sister Xiaoyue, do you know why I have been summoned by the master?"

"I don't know," Xiaoyue answered calmly, then glanced at her and lowered her voice to remind her, "Yuqing Luo was here just now. You better be careful."

"It's that damned Luo Yuqing again!" Cao Youqing resentfully thought, "Nothing good ever happens when I run into her!"

"Thank you for letting me know, Sister Xiaoyue."

She thanked Xiaoyue and then followed her into the Xuanmiao Palace.

The Xuanmiao Palace consists of an inner and outer hall, the outer hall is for receiving guests, larger and more lavishly decorated, while the inner hall is smaller and decorated more modestly, only accessible to insiders.

Circumventing the outer hall through the adjacent aisle and entering the inner hall, Xiaoyue silently withdrew.

Cao Youqing took a deep breath, adjusted her mentality, and then entered.

Compared to her haughty and indifferent demeanor outside the Holy Lands, she was now humble and cautious, as if she was a completely different person.

Entering the hall, she saw a figure with his back to her, standing there with his hands behind him.

It was a man's figure, dressed in a plain white robe, his back straight. Even as a silhouette, he appeared unfathomable and towering, winning people's hearts.

At this moment, he looked up at the 'Diagram of the Enlightened Chunyang's Sword Performance' hanging in the main hall. He was motionless and seemed absolutely focused.

Cao Youqing unconsciously stopped and didn't dare to speak out and interrupt.

It's uncertain how much time has passed.

All of a sudden.

The figure seemed to realize something. His robe slightly swirled, and a formless Sword Intent radiated from his body, instantly cutting through the air.

In an instant, the entire palace was shaken.

The Fluorescent Stone Spirit Lamp above her suddenly shattered, and the light inside the hall immediately dimmed.

That white figure also disappeared into the shadows.

Cao Youqing was shocked and instinctively bowed her head.

Even a Profound Martial cultivator who specializes in Swordsmanship needs to rely on the sword in his hand to demonstrate Sword Intent. To demonstrate Sword Intent without relying on any external objects has crossed the boundary of Swordsmanship and entered the realm of "Sword Dao."

Only cultivators in the Purple Abode Realm who exclusively practice Swordsmanship can achieve this state.

The invisible Sword Intent is the symbol of minor achievement in Sword Dao.

She felt admiration as well as envy in her heart.

Probably only exceptional talents like her master, the Great Heavenly Proud, could achieve minor achievement in Sword Dao at such a young age.

Although she also practiced hard, until now, she had only mastered about twenty to thirty percent of the Purple Xiao Sky Thunder Sword Intent. She wouldn't know until when she would be able to achieve this level of realm.

"You're here?"

At this time, a low, magnetic male voice came from the shadows.

Cao Youqing quickly stepped forward, bowed and said, "Congratulations on your significant progress in Sword Dao, master. I believe, in less than a hundred years, you will have the opportunity to glance through the door and take that crucial step."

"It's not that easy."

The shadow turned around and walked slowly out of the shadows.

It was a man who looked like a young cultivator, his face as beautiful as jade, and he carried himself with a calm demeanor and scholarliness. Looking only at this appearance, no one would think that he was actually a decisive Sword Cultivator.

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At this moment, without intentionally displaying his air of dominance, he appeared just like an ordinary young man. However, in front of him, Cao Youqing remained full of reverence, not daring to show the slightest disrespect.

Thinking back to when Luo Yuqing, that little lass, had been here before and spoken who-knows-what, Cao Youqing gritted her teeth and suddenly knelt down, apologising, "I have been remiss in my duties and have not managed to take down the Qian Family of Longzuo and the Southern Six Guards of Longzuo. Please punish me, Your Majesty."

"Let's put that matter aside for now."

The young man in white robes seemed to have anticipated her move, his face calm, showing no surprise.

He sat down on a chair in the inner hall, idly picking up a tea cup from the side and taking a sip before saying nonchalantly, "Let me ask you. Was the death of Zuo Qiu Qingyun in the Southern Desert some time ago your doing?"

Cao Youqing was startled.

She thought that the Emperor had summoned her to reprimand her, she didn't expect it to be about this matter.

It took her a good few moments to react, hurriedly responding, "Your Majesty, I am innocent of this."

"What a claim of innocence."

The youth's expression didn't change, but he suddenly put down the tea cup back onto the tea table, making a crisp banging noise.

His tone cooled down a notch, "If you truly did it, although it would've been reckless, it wouldn't have been completely senseless. But if you didn't do it, and someone pinned the blame on you, that would be stupidity!"

Her heart skipping a beat, Cao Youqing trembled unconsciously, immediately apologising, "I have erred! Please, your majesty, temper your anger."

"Erred? Where do you think you have erred?" The young man in white robe sneered and threw her a glance.

"This..."

Cao Youqing was at a loss for words.

"Hmph~!"

The young man in white robes snorted coldly before saying, "Inadequate abilities, not enough experience, these can be compensated for. But if you don't even understand where you have erred, then you truly are incurable. From today onward, you are to reflect upon your actions in the place of thunder punishment. You can come out when you've figured it out."

The place of thunder punishment, a place within the sacred land specially used to punish disciples who err. It was an area filled to the brim with brutally violent thunderstorms. Within, you cannot cultivate, all that awaits you is endless physical and mental torment.

With her present strength, even if she didn't die, she would be maimed."

"Your Majesty, I..."

Trying to protest against this perceived wrong, Cao Youqing contemplated, but upon meeting the icy gaze of the young man in white, unconsciously shivered. She quickly conceded, "Yes, Your Majesty."

"Go~"

The man in white gestured with his hand.

Left with no other choice, Cao Youqing reluctantly withdrew, heading towards the Place of Thunder Punishment.

Xiaoyue entered with newly brewed tea just in time to see Cao Youqing taking her leave.

She eyed Cao Youqing's disappointed figure and turned to the young man in white, cautiously advising, "Master, though Lady Youqing is a bit rash, she is indeed loyal to you. This matter doesn't obstruct any grand scheme, why get so angry over it?"

"I'm not angry."

Upon seeing Xiaoyue, the chill on the face of the young man in white dissipated, restoring his calm demeanor.

He took the new teacup from Xiaoyue and casually explained, "It's just that with her temperament, if she doesn't change, she's bound to be taken advantage of. It's something useless coming from me – or you – it's something she has to realize herself."

"Besides, with the incident in the Southern Desert, there's bound to be tension between the Zuo Qiu family and the distant Cao Family. In the years to come, there will inevitably be tug-of-war between the two families. With her temperament, it's hard to say she won't get embroiled, better to have her go to the Place of Thunder Punishment to temper her impulsiveness.

If she understands, that's best, if she doesn't, then let her focus on cultivation from here on out."

"So that's the case. Master, you care so much for Lady Youqing. That was thoughtless of me." Xiaoyue respectfully agreed before cautiously asking, "How do you intend to handle the Zuo Qiu family? Would you like me to..."

Before she could finish speaking, he waved his hand to interrupt her.

"Let them squabble for a few years first. If their conflict is handled properly, it might serve my purposes. As for the situation in Longzuo, there's no need to rush. The dispute for the throne has always been a long game. When the current changes, they won't get away." He slowly skimmed the foam from the tea, "The struggle for power is a game played lightly, much like a trivial matter."

Xiaoyue shivered inwardly, hurriedly bowing respectfully, "Y-yes, Xiaoyue understands."

And so the world goes: a single word from those in power can determine the futures of countless people.

Weak ones can only be at the mercy of others.

Only the strong can stir up the wind and the clouds and make the world bow before them.

In Wang Shouzhe's courtyard.

The sun was abundant, and the breeze gentle, on this hot summer morning.

In the courtyard, the stone pavilion was overgrown with climbing plants. The layers of green leaves interspersed with brightly colored exotic flowers were not only providing shade against the sun but also adding a sense of living interest.

Specks of sunlight fell through the leaf gaps on the faces and bodies of two men inside the pavilion, enhancing the atmosphere.

These two men were naturally Wang Shouzhe and his nephew Wang Zongchang.

In this world, not everything is about fighting and killing. There's also leisure and elegance in "passively watching the flowers bloom and wither, and gazing at the shifting clouds."

At this time, the two were sitting on either side of a stone table, leisurely enjoying a pot of Cloud Mist Spirit Tea.

This tea was slightly cold in nature, invigorating and moistening, nourishing the spirit. It was very much to Wang Shouzhe's liking.

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The only place in the surrounding area with a small yield was the Cloud Mist Cave managed by the Yinyu family of Shanyin. So, Liu Ruolan would take advantage of the new tea harvest each year to visit her maiden family and overwhelmingly pack more than half of the production to bring back. She would store it with great care, all to cater to her husband's taste.

As a result, over these years, Liu Yuanhui, the young Family Head of the Liu family, has frequently expressed unhappiness in private. Unfortunately, his complaints were useless. He couldn't beat his sister anyway. If Liu Ruolan ever became irritated, that would mean getting beaten up for no reason.

While enjoying the tea, Wang Zongchang began to tell the story of his findings from the recent exploration beyond their territory.

Usually,

The Wang family would embark on autumn-winter hunts every year and progressively expand their hunting range, which became, in essence, a way to explore the neighboring territories.

However, starting a new settlement and hunting were different. The process of establishing new territory not only involved thorough geographical surveys and detailed environmental analysis, but also the identification and resolution of possible risks; it even stretched to foreseeing future developments and planning.

"Fourth Uncle, this whole area is larger than our Ping'an Town. The land is flat with multiple large and small lakes scattered around. The soil is fertile and water resources are plentiful.

If we're willing to put in substantial effort to develop, the Wang family can increase their farmland by several hundred thousand acres," Wang Zongchang showed Wang Shouzhe a somewhat scribbled hand-drawn map in an excited tone. "As for those lakes, irrigation can be enhanced and water transportation can be initiated by digging canals.

Besides, with these lakes, the fishing and aquaculture techniques that the Wang family has been developing for decades can be put to use."

His handsome face was glowing with excitement, as if envisioning the enormous development of the Wang family in the future.

"The only problem is to include this area in the development plan, we need to push the construction of 'Shouzhe Pass' thirty miles ahead and build a new pass at the entrance of another gorge, extending the intended ten-mile-long pass to twenty miles."

Upon hearing this,

Wang Shouzhe furrowed his eyebrows. The location for building a pass cannot be decided carelessly. It involves several considerations such as cost, defense, and long-term garrison convenience.

Most passes are constructed at the narrowest and most perilous locations of the gorges.

Although Wang Zongchang's planning and ideas could yield a rich granary and fishing ground for the Wang family, they also increase potential risks and the difficulty of development.

Moreover, the defense pressure would double with the extension of the pass.

"Zongchang's ideas are excellent," Wang Shouzhe started by expressing his admiration for Wang Zongchang, but then he changed his tone. "However, we must eat our food one bite at a time. Our Wang family is still in early development with sparse population. We're afraid we can't take on such a huge responsibility.

It could be dangerous to overreach compared to adopting a conservative and cautious approach. Our Wang family has both the elderly and young members. Their stable survival is more important than development."

A cold sweat formed on Wang Zongchang's forehead. He hurriedly folded his hands to say, "Fourth Uncle, it was careless and impatient of me."

"It's alright, everyone can have different opinions. Your Fourth Uncle might not necessarily be right," Wang Shouzhe poured him a cup of tea and said with a smile, "Spend more time with Fei Fei at home when you're resting. Have some more kids while you're still young, our Wang family is short of people."

Wang Zongchang's face turned red and he stuttered, "I, I will listen to the Fourth Uncle's words. But Fei Fei, she... is not very interested."

"What? Do we, the Wang family, have no plans for development?"

Wang Shouzhe's expression turned serious.

After pondering for a bit, he took out a mysterious book from his storage ring and gave it to him as if it was a treasure, "This is a secret manual that I incidentally acquired, named 'Forty-two Style'. Study it well and strive to contribute more to the family."

Wang Zongchang took it and skimmed through it casually, feeling as if he had been struck by thunder.

My God~~ This, this is a whole new world~~

He quickly hid the secret manual "Forty-two Style" in his bosom, his face flushed red. His heart was still pounding wildly. He drank several cups of Spiritual Tea to distract his mind and managed to regain his composure.

"Fourth Uncle, there was a tricky problem that we discovered on this exploration of the outlands," having regained his calm, he said solemnly, "Look at this gorge. It's densely vegetated and perilous. Numerous caves are hidden within. Old Ancestor Xiao Han and I jointly went exploring but found a large group of Blood Bats inhabiting the caves.

We dared not stay there long and withdrew after a brief inspection."

"The Blood Bat Group is active at night and remains dormant during the day. They are vicious in nature, often attacking large creatures in groups, posing a significant threat to humans. Therefore, it's essential to eliminate the Blood Bat Group before starting the development."

"Blood Bats?"

Upon hearing this name, Wang Shouzhe's expression turned serious. Explore stories on My Virtual Library Empire

After joining the Wang family, one crucial foundation course was memorizing books like the 'Beast Atlas,' 'Plant Identification Manual,' 'Mineral Recognition Manual,' etc., word for word, until they knew it by heart.

Wang Shouzhe had, of course, been through this.

The "Blood Bats" were among the more detestable creatures listed in the 'Beast Atlas.'

They were vicious, highly aggressive, and skilled in group attacks. They would frequently attack livestock or even humans in groups. They were considered one of the most fearsome creatures for common people to encounter.

Chapter 79: Giving Birth to Many Children for the Rise of the Wang Family (Request for Monthly Tickets) _4

Bizarrely, their habitats are often located deep in caves, making their extermination extremely difficult. Moreover, if extermination is not thorough, it is highly likely to pose a danger to the people who migrate later.

Ping'an Town once had a group of Blood Bats, which troubled the Wang family for several decades.

During that time, Ping'an Town suffered many human and livestock losses every year. It was only after old ancestor Zhou Xuan expended a great deal of manpower and resources that the Blood Bats were gradually exterminated.

This matter is detailed in the "Wang's Ancestral Inheritance Chronicles". Wang Shouzhe, who is well versed in the Chronicles, naturally has a deep impression of it.

After some thought, he said, "Since there is a group of Blood Bats, they must be cleared first. Coincidentally, the Autumn-Winter Hunt begins in two to three months. I'll team up with Old Ancestor Longyan and we will thoroughly clean up some dangerous sites, including the Blood Bats'."

A look of delight came over Wang Zongchang's face: "With Fourth Uncle and old ancestor in charge, those Blood Bats are as good as dead."

"We cannot be careless. I will also write a letter asking Luo Jing to come back and help if she can. Luo Jing is skilled in controlling spiritual insects, she may know some secret technique to exterminate the Blood Bats." Wang Shouzhe said solemnly.

"Adding on Fifth Aunt, that would be very safe." Wang Zongchang nodded, "Some dangerous places are better explored by spiritual insects."

The uncle and nephew were discussing the family's affairs.

Suddenly!

A hawk's cry echoed across the sky.

A small-winged, yet extremely agile hawk passed over the yard, then swiftly descended.

Your next chapter is on My Virtual Library Empire

Wang Zongchang laughed, "This must be Zongcai's monkey approaching. This Level One Spirit Hawk was a gift from his uncle. He cherishes it incredibly and never lets it out of his sight. His Spirit Hawk has earned many Merit Points during this exploration beyond the domain, he's probably come to see Fourth Uncle to claim the rewards."

Just as expected.

From outside the yard of Wang Shouzhe, the voice of Wang Zongcai could be heard: "Fourth Uncle, Zongcai seeks an audience."

Wang Shouzhe smiled, "Come in, stop dawdling at my door."

No sooner had the words fell than a tall and handsome teenager breezed into the courtyard.

He was dressed in a sturdy Profound Martial outfit, with a sword at his waist and a hawk on his shoulder. He was indeed a spirited and valorous young man.

He is the son of Wang Shounuo, the third of the "Shou" generation. Only sixteen years old, the conditions of the Wang family started improving since he was born, so he has not suffered much.

His path to growth was greased by access to ample resources.

Thanks to the solid foundation laid since his childhood, his spirit was very full and his cultivation base had reached the seventh level of Qi Refinement. This put him half a chip above Wang Shouzhe at the same age.

Upon entering, seeing Wang Shouzhe and Wang Zongchang, Wang Zongcai hurriedly bowed and laughed: "Zongcai greets Fourth Uncle and Second Brother. It seems Second Brother has arrived earlier than me. Despite being freshly married to Second Sister-in-law, you don't spend much time with her."

"Old Six, stop being disrespectful to me!" Wang Zongchang scolded with a smile, "Why are you here first thing in the morning clamoring for recognition, are you afraid I will embezzle your contributions outside the domain?"

"Absolutely not!" Wang Zongcai replied with a cheeky smile, "My small merit points are earned with Ling'er's help, it is nowhere near Second Brother's. With Second Brother's stature, you wouldn't be interested in this anyway."

When it came to "Ling'er", he affectionately stroked his Level One Spirit Hawk, his eyes filled with the warmth of seeing a lover.

"Stop wasting breath, sit down and talk while drinking tea." Wang Shouzhe scolded with a smile, "Looking at the joy on your face, I assume you have gained quite a lot from this exploration beyond the domain. While I am idle, I might as well listen to you brag. If you do well, there is a reward, if not, I will deduct your family contribution."

Wang Zongcai's face crumbled. After half sitting down, he said: "Fourth Uncle, I'm not bragging."

Then, he began to "boast" incessantly.

He praised his "Ling'er" to the heavens, claiming that it was omnipotent. Knowledgeable ones knew that it was only a common Level One Spirit Hawk. Those who didn't know might think it was the reincarnation of a godly hawk.

"So, your purpose is..." Wang Shouzhe interrupted him after listening to his bombast for the time it took to burn a stick of incense. He just couldn't take it anymore.

"Fourth Uncle, I've accrued quite a lot of Merit Points this time, which can be exchanged for a lot of resources." Wang Zongcai pleaded, "But I have to cultivate myself, and also nurture Ling'er. Life is really tough these days. When will I be able to nurture Ling'er to Level Three?"

Before Wang Shouzhe could answer,

Liu Ruolan happened to bring over some fresh fruits. Having heard his words, she said with a laugh, "Sounds like nurturing a Spirit Hawk is quite difficult for Zongcai."

"Fourth Aunt." Wang Zongcai quickly stood to pay his respects.

He knew his Fourth Uncle was approachable, but the most powerful in the family was probably his Fourth Aunt. The saying goes 'Better to offend Fourth Uncle ten times than Fourth Aunt once.'

On the other hand, Fourth Aunt often looks after the younger generation with no effort spared, often distributing rewards and subsidies.

Wang Zongcai himself had also received numerous subsidies from Fourth Aunt.

"Don't be formal, sit, sit, sit, I'll give you a suggestion." Liu Ruolan graciously entertained him while laughing, "Our Zongcai is handsome and heroic. I've heard that there are many girls in different families who have their eyes on you. So, why don't you find a girl, get married early, and receive the family's marriage reward?"

"Then you can have several children. Wouldn't your family contribution skyrocket in one fell swoop?"

Wang Zongcai broke into a cold sweat. 'Thank you for your suggestion, Fourth Aunt,' he thought. He shook his head vigorously, "No, no. I'm still young, only sixteen. I have 'Ling'er'. I don't want to be like Second Brother and Fourth Uncle, stepping into the grave of marriage so early..."

Before he could finish his sentence,

An icy gaze landed on him.

Wang Shouzhe and Wang Zongchang looked at each other, then at Wang Zongcai with respect.

This kid's guts were truly big - a true young hero. Young and fearless.

Wang Zongcai felt a chill down his spine, as if he had plunged into an ice pit.

"Hehe~" Liu Ruolan withdrew her gaze and began to laugh delicately, "My dear, I've realized that our family education on family inheritance duties for our children is somewhat lacking."

"What do you suggest, wife?" Wang Shouzhe asked.

"It's not just what I think." Liu Ruolan said seriously, "The ancestry of the family lies in the unbroken line of descendants. Populating the clan is the glorious duty of every family member. I suggest that we regularly hold social events for the young people of the family..."

Furthermore, for young men like Zongcai who'd rather raise a bird than marry, it's not enough to just stimulate their breeding effectiveness with rewards, we must duly punish them!"

"Fourth Aunt, I was wrong." Wang Zongcai was almost in tears. He looked at Wang Shouzhe and said, "Fourth Uncle, you can't be too soft."

Soft?

Wang Shouzhe's expression became serious, "Zongcai, continuing the family line is the duty of everyone in the clan. If neither you nor I have children, how will the family thrive? As for the social events, we'll leave that to your aunt."

"My dear, I'll take care of it." Liu Ruolan said.

"It's over, it's over." Wang Zongcai looked to be on the verge of tears. I just came to ask for some resources to promote my "Ling'er". How could I have ended up in this predicament in the blink of an eye?

Chapter 80: Lead Trouble Away! Wilderness Pioneering Outside the Territory (Ask for Monthly Pass)_1

...

Liaoyuan County, Seafood House.

"Seafood House" is a thousand-year-old establishment and it's also the most luxurious, top-tier restaurant in Liaoyuan County that primarily serves a variety of seafood delicacies.

Its history can almost be traced back to when Liaoyuan County was first developed.

It has managed to stand tall all these years due to the backing of its owner, which is the Cao family of Liaoyuan, a fifth-rank Purple Abode Prominent Family.

On this day.

In the top-floor private room of Seafood House with the best view and most luxurious decoration, there were two distinguished guests.

One was a middle-aged man in a silk robe, looking cultured and refined. He was the owner of Seafood House, the family head of Liaoyuan's Cao family, Cao Bangning.

The other one was a sharp-faced, keen-minded man with a small goatee; he was the family head of Liu Clan in Qing An Prefecture, a rank six prominent family, Liu Tianming.

The two men took their seats one after the other.

The shopkeeper of Seafood House served the dishes with the help of his staff, carefully pouring wine, and after all formalities were observed, he withdrew respectfully. He also instructed the servant at the door to guard it well and forbid anyone from approaching the room.

The servant naturally couldn't slack off, so he made endless assurances, which can be left aside for now.

At the same time, in the room, the family head of Liaoyuan's Cao family, Cao Bangning, began pouring wine enthusiastically for Liu Tianming, adding dishes, cordially inviting him to eat and drink with great hospitality.

"Come on~ Family head Tianming, you only come twice a year, our meetings are so rare. I'm your host today, so eat and drink as much as you can! There's plenty of good food and wine here..."

"Family Head Tianming, try this. This is top-quality level four Blue Lobster, just delivered fresh from the sea today. It was specially prepared by the head chef using a secret technique, offering a delicate, savory and smooth taste without any fishiness. It's a distinctive dish from the Seafood House that you can't savor anywhere else..."

"And this one, is one of the rarest delicacies called Sea Elixir Fish. It's only available during this season every year..."

For this single meal, Cao Bangning spared no expense. It was not about the money; the key was that many of the ingredients used were tribute items with very low yields. He usually could not bear to eat these often, but now, he served them all for Liu Tianming.

Meanwhile, the kitchen of the Seafood House has been busy since the previous evening, and it took them until now to prepare this feast of a meal that was a delight to all senses.

And Liu Tianming indeed did not disappoint as he enjoyed the banquet thoroughly.

After three rounds of drinks and a variety of dishes...

When Liu Tianming was almost finished eating, he put down his wine cup and looked at Cao Bangning: "Family head Bangning, I have indeed caused you a great expense today~ Rest assured, I will surely offer you the most favorable price for grain this year. Even if I must take a cut on my own profit, I won't let you suffer any loss."

Liaoyuan County has a vast population but your land is scarce causing them to procure a significant portion of the grain consumed every year from other counties. Qing An Prefecture, known as the "granary of Da Qian" and which neighbours Liaoyuan County, naturally becomes its main grain source.

Liu Tianming travels between these two locations, engaged in the business of grain trading.

The Purple Abode Cao Family, being the largest among the prominent families of Liaoyuan County, naturally purchase a significant amount of grain from him each year.

However, upon hearing these words, Cao Bangning could not help but sigh inwardly and silently curse "Old Fox." Cao Bangning did not believe that Liu Tianming was unaware of the troubles his family was facing at the moment. At this moment, feigning ignorance, he clearly wants Cao Bangning to beseech him.

Even though he knew this, he was left without a choice but to display a look of shame, get up and prepare to bow deeply to Liu Tianming: "Family head Tianming, to be honest, I invited you here today to ask a favor. Considering the wedding alliance that our two families have maintained over the years, I must ask you kindly for your assistance."

"Oh, brother Cao, do not say such things! We are all part of one big family, no need to talk about favours!" Liu Tianming quickly steadied him, saying, "please, get up. If there is anything you would like me to do, just say it, assuming it is within my power, I will definitely help."

He appeared very enthusiastic on the surface, but deep down he was smug and satisfied.

Old Cao Bangning, who usually looked down on people simply because he was the family head of a fifth-rank family, and his aunt was a core disciple of the Sacred Land, Cao Youqing, was now forced to come to him for assistance upon facing trouble, wasn't he?

After a bit of back-and-forth negotiation, the two finally stopped their "sincere" displays of "deep affection and friendship," and got down to business.

"Brother Tianming, didn't your daughter marry into the Zuo Qiu family? I heard she is part of the direct lineage." Cao Bangning poured a cup of wine for Liu Tianming, saying, "Could you, perhaps, help forward a message? Maybe your daughter could mediate a bit?"

" well..."

Hearing these words, Liu Tianming's formerly hearty demeanor was instantly replaced with a troubled look on his face.

What a joke! After much difficulty, he had finally married his daughter into the direct lineage of the Zuoqiu family. It was precisely because of this connection that the Zuoqiu family was willing to allocate a portion of their high-quality grain for him to sell.

He did not have intentions of risking his hard-earned connections for the Cao family's troubles.

Of course, he would obviously not say this directly. Instead, he euphemistically said: "Brother Cao, as you may know, the Zuoqiu family is not like our prominent families. Their family head is a Celestial being who serves at least one hundred to two hundred years, which leads to a large number of direct descendants. Continue reading at [My Virtual Library Empire](#)

Although my young daughter married into the direct lineage, she is just a direct granddaughter, not the eldest direct granddaughter..."

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Cao Bangning had long known that he wouldn't agree easily, so he conveniently pulled a gold note from his storage ring and thrust it into his hand, sincerely saying, "Tianming brother, you must help me! You're the only one I can rely on now!"

And I don't ask for much, just let your daughter speak on my behalf and ask the Purple Abode Old Ancestor of the Zuoqiu family to please grant an audience to my family's Old Ancestor to have a discussion. That would be enough for me."

"Ah~ how can I accept this?"

Liu Tianming rubbed the texture of the gold note and discovered that it was a purple gold note. The smile on his face instantly became much more sincere. Upon hearing that Cao Bangning only wanted to have a conversation with the Zuoqiu family, his heart instantly felt at ease.

He immediately pocketed the purple gold note, promising, "Brother Cao, rest assured, as soon as I get home, I will ask my daughter to speak to them for you. However, as to whether anything will come out of it, I can't guarantee. I must make you understand this in advance."

"Of course, of course. You agreeing to help is already doing me a great favor. Whether this matter succeeds or fails, I won't fault you for it, brother Tianming."

Naturally, Cao Bangning was nodding repeatedly, without any arguments.

The two of them chatted idly for a bit more, and their dinner was soon over. Before long, Liu Tianming departed from Seafood House.

After he left, the forced smile on Cao Bangning's face fell apart, disappearing in an instant.

"Ah~"

He sighed heavily, feeling trepidation in his heart.

With his aunt recklessly killing the Sky Pride of the Zuoqiu family, they have deeply offended the Zuoqiu family.

Although on the surface, when a family's offspring joins a sacred land or an academic palace, they become part of the sacred land, and the family can remain uninvolved. But, the Zuoqiu family losing a Sky Pride and the exposure of such a great scandal, instantly making them the laughingstock of several prominent families, how could they let it go?

They couldn't do anything to the sacred land so they will surely take out their anger on the Cao Family. Even if they don't act overtly, they will surely sanction the Cao family secretly.

Compared to the Zuoqiu family of Qing An Prefecture, who dominate the region, and have four or five Purple Abode Old Ancestors right out in the open, the Cao family is just an ordinary Grade Five Prominent Family. Not to mention only having a single Purple Abode Old Ancestor in the family, their foundation, their business enterprises, are completely overshadowed by the Zuoqiu family.

If the Zuoqiu family really made a move to sanction the Cao family, they simply wouldn't be able to withstand it.

Now, the most prudent solution he could think of was to have their family's Old Ancestor meet and talk with the Purple Abode Old Ancestor of Zuoqiu Qingyun. If the talks go well, although the Cao family might have to pay a price, they would also manage to weather this disaster. If the talks don't go well...

Ah~

Cao Bangning couldn't hold back another sigh.

This Liu Tianming is slippery and crafty, and his actions may not be reliable. He couldn't put all his eggs in Liu Tianming's basket; he should prepare for both possibilities.

He paced slowly with hands behind his back, brainstorming countermeasures while slowly exiting Seafood House.

"Farewell, Family Head."

At the entrance of the Seafood House, the shopkeeper stood with a group of assistants in a row, respectfully. Only after seeing Cao Bangning enter the carriage did he heave a sigh of relief, feeling like he just narrowly escaped a disaster.

...

The "dispute" between the Zuoqiu family of Qing'an and Cao's family of Liaoyuan, which caused a change in the situation, temporarily has nothing to do with Wang Shouzhe.

As Wang Shouzhe became a Great Heavenly Proud and no longer had doubts about his return to the family, he devoted himself entirely to his intense work.

A new round of expansion has finally started for Wang family that had been accumulating power for more than twenty years.

For the Wang family, this expansion is a matter of necessity.

Though the Wang family's annual income reaches several million Qian Gold, after heavy expenditures, they are only able to save just under two million Qian Gold. Though it seems like a considerable amount, as the family's Sky Prides and Great Heavenly Prides gradually reach the Heavenly Human Realm, the funds will become insufficient.

Moreover, the younger generation of the Wang family is continually being born. Under the Wang family's principle of producing high-quality offspring, future expenses will only keep growing.

In addition, the total population of Ping'an Town has already exceeded 150,000, showing signs of overcrowding, and internal development has hit a bottleneck.

Only by inheriting the aspirations of the old ancestor Zhou Xuan to expand outward can they find a fundamental way to develop.

Zhou Xuanguan! Your next journey awaits at My Virtual Library Empire

The gate originally built by the old ancestor Zhou Xuan, costing tremendous resources and a great deal of effort is providing protection to generation after generation of Wang disciples, as well as tens of thousands of people in Ping'an Town.

Once you leave Zhou Xuanguan, you'll come across a narrow cliff corridor, which is a must-pass place leading to the outer region from Ping'an Town.

All along, independent cultivators and prominent family disciples would embark on adventures in the outer region from here. If unlucky, one would end up dead. If lucky, one would gain immense rewards.

Nowadays, a cement road more than four yards wide, made of imported cement, is under construction on this corridor. (In Great Qian Land, the word "imported" carries neither positive nor negative connotation, it merely signifies goods from overseas.)

The construction of a cement road requires the soil to first be compacted with a stone roller, then a thick layer of crushed stones spread over, then the crushed stone layer further compacted with a stone roller, and finally, the concrete layer poured with cement and surface treatment of the concrete.

The process sounds simple and the core material is cement.

The cement currently sold by the joint industry is priced at around two copper coins fifty shillings per dan (one hundred catties), which is only half cheaper than ordinary food prices.

This shows that cement is a luxury-grade construction material. Therefore, not every prominent family can afford to build a cement road.

Chapter 80: Lead Trouble Away! Wilderness Pioneering Outside the Territory (Ask for Monthly Pass)_3

Within Wang Shouzhe's planning:

This quality cement road, called "Shouzhe Road", is more than four zhang wide, can accommodate five carriages side by side, and extends for a staggering eighty li! If it were on Earth, a mere eighty li widened concrete road wouldn't be considered a significant project.

Yet for the Wang family, the internal construction cost of this road amounts to two hundred and sixteen thousand Qian Gold. It will require three thousand laborers and take six months to complete.

The timeline for the "Shouzhe Road" project is extremely tight, requiring completion before the next rainy season. Otherwise, if it drags on until next March, construction difficulty will skyrocket.

It will traverse the outer territories, and at the end of the eighty li is a wide abyss of a canyon, a corridor formed by two parallel mountain ranges.

Whenever pioneering land in the outer territories, it is essential to select natural barriers for fortification. Otherwise, no matter how well the land is developed, there's no resistance against the onslaught of beast tides, and the losses would be immeasurable.

Truth be told, the construction site for "Shouzhe Pass" isn't ideal right now.

However, after investigating the terrain within a radius of two to three hundred li, it's the best of a bad lot. All the other sites fall far behind it.

The reason why the "Shouzhe Pass" construction site is deemed unideal mainly lies in the width of the corridor being too big. Even the narrowest, most suitable building site would require the Pass to be built ten li wide! Continue reading at [My Virtual Library Empire](#)

A Pass that's ten li wide! It's evidently a rare occurrence even in Da Qian.

The "Zhou Xuanguan", which the Wang family previously took great pride in, is just over one hundred zhang wide, far less than one li wide.

So you can imagine how enormous the yet-to-be-built "Shouzhe Pass" is going to be.

That's also why no neighboring family has ever attempted to pioneer the outer territories beyond Zhou Xuanguan in the past few hundred years. The construction difficulties and expenses of a Pass of that level are definitely not affordable by an average 7th-rank Aristocratic Family.

In fact, most of the Rank Six Prominent Family may not even be able to construct it.

The reason why the Wang family, led by Wang Shouzhe, dares to ambitiously construct the "Shouzhe Pass" is twofold: First, the Wang family's annual income is high. Second, they have a lot of experience with concrete construction.

According to the estimate made from the blueprint.

The "Shouzhe Pass" along with its Zun City, will demand a total of forty million dan of cement, eighty million dan of crushed stones, two million dan of crude iron melted into reinforcements, and ninety million dan of high-quality thick stone blocks for wall building and paving.

The human resources planned for the project will reach ten thousand people.

The total construction period for the "Shouzhe Pass" and its Zun City will be ten years, and the total expenditure is projected to be about fourteen million Qian Gold. This doesn't even include the costs required to set up the Divine Might Cannons on Shouzhe Pass.

(Le Ao roughly sketched a blueprint and did a simple estimate of the work and material costs. No choice, Le Ao spent an unprofessional year or two as a project cost estimator in his youth and even took an exam for it, it was easier back then... Hence the slight OCD.)

Transporting such a huge amount of construction material through "Shouzhe Road" is not feasible. First, the size of the transport load would be too massive. Second, the cost would be excessive.

Therefore, before the construction of "Shouzhe Pass" commences, it is necessary to first build cement factories, stone quarries, and accommodation quarters for laborers around the building site.

Of course, these are not the biggest difficulties in infrastructure development in the outer territories.

The greatest difficulty lies in its risk and uncertainty. The Wang family must take advantage of this coming fall and winter season for a large-scale cleanup of "Shouzhe Pass", eliminating all dangerous flora and fauna.

Simultaneously with the construction of "Shouzhe Road", patrols and clearances must also be carried out along the way, to ensure the safety of the road laborers.

Based on the above.

It would be too demanding for the Wang family to single-handedly pioneer the land.

The affiliated families of the In-laws Alliance, led by the Wang family, were also drawn into this ambitious pioneering plan. Each family needed to delegate a portion of their manpower, mobilize their subjects to join the labor team, and bear a portion of the costs.

Of course, the Wang family contributes the most capital and can mobilize the largest number of laborers from their jurisdiction of hundred and fifty thousand commoners. The Wang family will go all out for this wave of outer territory development, and the benefits to be gained in the future will also be the greatest.

The Wang family machine roars into motion.

In Longzuo County Town, inside Tian Yuan Danfang compound.

Wang Shouye, an alchemist who is being prioritized for training by their family, is carrying out his task.

"Brother Wen Shan, thank you for taking the time to refine these hundred first-grade Detoxification Pills. Here is two thousand five hundred Qian Gold notes, please take it."

"Brother Jing Fu, thank you for your time in crafting these two hundred first-grade Healing Pills. Here is four thousand Qian Gold notes for you, please accept it. I hope you can make more when you have the time."

The pioneering of the outer territories is a highly risky and unpredictable system project. Detoxification Pills and Healing Pills are indispensable strategic supplies. The former can neutralize most of the lower-level toxins, and the latter can effectively heal injuries and save lives.

However, such first-grade Dan medicines are only effective for cultivators in the Qi Refinement Realm and mortals. They have almost no effect on cultivators in the Spirit Platform Realm, for a very simple reason: the leap and transformation in their life level makes them much more powerful, rendering low-level toxins and injuries ineffective against them.

But once they are seriously poisoned and injured, those low-level Detoxification Pills and Healing Pills aren't going to be of any use either.

Consequently, a good number of third and fourth-grade Antidote Pills, Creation Pills must be prepared. These must either be refined by Wang Shouye himself or be commissioned to other higher-graded alchemists for refinement.

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With the existence of a high-quality alchemist like Wang Shouye, as long as the Wang family is willing to spend money, Dan medicine of grade four or below will no longer be scarce. Only grade four or above Dan medicine may not have ample supply due to the rare and precious ingredients needed.

In addition, Wang Shouye is also mass-producing a grade three Dan medicine, "Enlightenment Pill". An occasional Enlightenment Pill usually requires six to seven hundred Qian Gold. However, with Luo Jing supplying the main ingredient, "Purple Crystal Queen Bee Honey," Shouye can mass-produce Enlightenment Pills at a relatively low cost.

To the vast majority of families, the Enlightenment Pill has little effect.

Its greatest effect is that it can likely improve a junk qualification individual who is close to the bottom grade up to grade D.

Although a grade D qualification is still the lowest qualification among all Profound Martial cultivators, and their chances of breaking through to the Spirit Platform Realm are slim, they are, after all, considered Profound Martial cultivators. Many ordinary heads of households, and even quite a few people from less notable prominent families, are at this level.

In addition, the Enlightenment Pill can slightly improve those who originally have bottom grade qualifications. The lower the bloodline talent, the better the effect.

Of course, only the first Enlightenment Pill consumed is effective. The effect of the second is very weak.

But even so, the significance of the Enlightenment Pill to the Wang family is immeasurable. The Wang family has their own Spirit Testing Platform, which can roughly detect those who have no grade qualifications – whether they are close to the bottom grade. If supplemented with the

Enlightenment Pill, they could potentially serve as clan soldiers and alleviate the Wang family's shortage of manpower.

With regards to the family's bloodline cultivation, the pill has a minor effect. However, it is better than nothing.

Apart from Wang Shouye staying in the county town, buying and refining Dan medicine, and sending them back to the Wang family through the Keep Achieving Commercial Firm, the rest of the family members are also working hard on everything else.

For example, Wang Zongyao, the family's artifact refiner, is overseeing blacksmiths and artisans in making tools like hoes, iron shovels, axes, saws, and also weapons for hunting and dealing with fierce beasts such as crossbows, arrows, long spears, iron-covered shields, machetes, and iron sand from shotguns, and the like.

Meanwhile, Wang Luotong and her husband, who now manage the Wang's Large Pasture, are breeding and training large-scale heavy-duty draft horses, war horses, as well as raising a large number of pigs, buffalos, and sheep to produce more meat, thus providing more nutritional supplements for those pioneers and laborers.

Forget about hunting for supplements, even the immediate outer regions, where there are fewer beasts and fierce beasts, don't provide sufficient wild meat for the hunting team to replenish their own needs.

In addition, the Wang family's large-scale fishing teams, Zhuwei Lake fish farming teams, and the like have stopped selling fish and other meats externally. Instead, they are storing up to sustain the teams pioneering the outer regions, guaranteeing their daily nutritional intake.

All efforts are focused on the massive task of pioneering the outer regions.

Time flies.

Early October.

The weather is getting cooler, and the vast greenery is turning to wax-yellow.

The construction of the "Shouzhe Road" in the outer regions is ongoing at full speed, and in a few short months, it's already extended fifty miles, progressing faster than originally planned.

Wang Shihai, who is staying with the Changning Wang Clan, is a hot-blooded youth who doesn't like idleness. He volunteered to join the pioneering and hunting team, leading a squad of heads of households and clan soldiers and spending his days patrolling and exterminating dangerous organisms in the outer regions.

With his Heavenly Chosen Talent and impressive power, he has made quite a name for himself and earned the homeguard and clan soldiers' affection. Your journey continues at My Virtual Library Empire

Wang Shihai has a love-hate relationship with the Changning Wang family. He loves it because there are so many fun and novel things to do, one after another. But he hates it because the relatives of the Changning Wang family are of high positions, making him feel uncomfortable.

Of course, there are people like Wang Shin and Wang Shicheng of the "Sh" generation who make him feel somewhat at ease. Unfortunately, the members of the "Sh" and "Ying" generations in the Changning Wang Clan are still young and naive. Even if Wang Shihai feels comfortable with them, he would not spend his days mixing with these kids.

One day.

Wang Shihai was returning with a full load, leading his team towards the camp.

Suddenly!

On the "Shouzhe Road," which was already halfway complete and partially in use, a woman in a light green dress appeared. It was striking that she wore a weft yarn Douli on her head, carried a flute on her waist, and wore a string of bells on her white wrist.

Every step she took seemed to place her dozens of feet away, in near silence. The crisp sound of bells wafted away with the wind.

A gust of wind blew her hat up, revealing half of her gentle, pretty face.

In an instant, Wang Shihai was captivated. He felt as if he was electrified by her aura.